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HISTORY
OF
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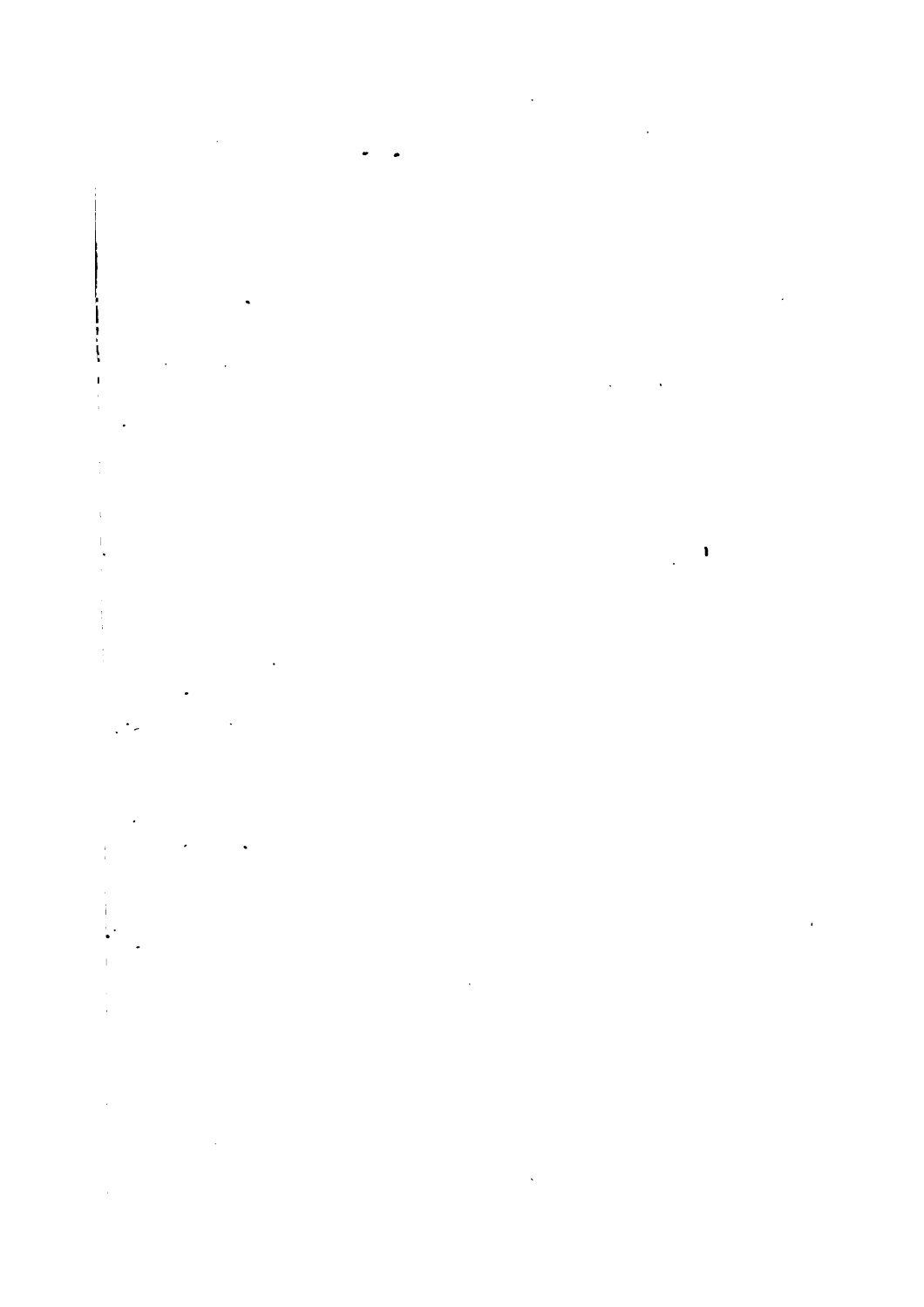


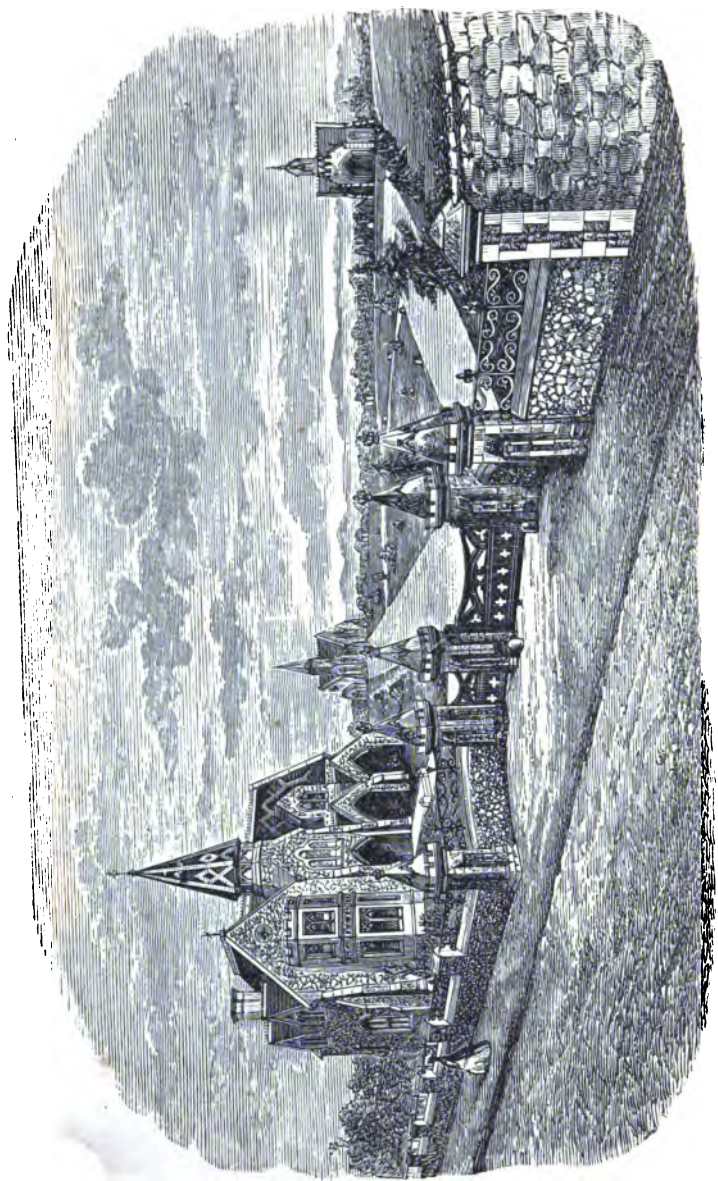
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THE CEMETERY.

HISTORY
OF
ASHFORD.

BY THE

REV. A. J. PEARMAN, M.A.,

VICAR OF RAINHAM.

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P R E F A C E .

In committing the following pages to the press I claim no credit but that which is due to industry. My task has been that of a compiler rather than of an author. From various sources—Hasted's History of Kent, the Parochial Records, Warren's manuscript preserved at the College, and the valuable Papers of Mr. Herbert Smith, the Rev. L. B. Larking, and Mr. T. G. Fawcett, in the *Archæologia Cantiana*—I have drawn the materials, which with the results of my own observation and

Preface.

reading, I have endeavoured to combine in a continuous narrative. My thanks are due to Mr. Furley for the readiness with which he allowed me to make copious extracts from his Lecture on "Ashford, past and present," and to Mr. Thurston for his kindness in contributing a chapter which has no fault but its brevity.

Now that my work is finished I begin to doubt whether I ought to have undertaken it. Local history *may* be made so interesting and so instructive that it may be questioned if any one should take it in hand who, to a certain skill in composition and a certain acquaintance with the annals of his country, does not add that intimate knowledge of the place to be described which age, observation, and long residence alone can give. However, if my friends will pardon my deficiencies and excuse the errors into which I may have fallen, they will,

Preface.

I hope, derive some pleasure from my attempt to "save and recover somewhat," in connection with their own town, "from the deluge of time."

In this age of progress, when the old landmarks are fast disappearing, it is gratifying to observe the increased and increasing interest every where manifested in the memorials of by-gone days. There is that in the history of even the most remote village which is worth knowing. And he will be not only a more *agreeable* because a more *intelligent* companion, but also a *happier* and in some respects a *better* man, who by the force of imagination founded on knowledge, can re-people with their old inhabitants the ruined castle, the decayed manor-house, the venerable church, he passes in his daily walks. For himself, and for others, he will have secured a constant source of innocent pleasure and one which can hardly fail to

Preface.

exercise a beneficial influence upon his character and habits. "Whatever," says Dr. Johnson, no mean authority, "withdraws us from the power of our senses, whatever makes the past, the distant, or the future, predominate over the present, advances us in the dignity of thinking beings."

If what I have written should agreeably revive old associations in the mind of any former inhabitant of the town or should induce any of its present occupants to take a more intelligent interest in its welfare the object I had in view will have been accomplished.

A. J. P.

JULY, 1868.

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ERRATA.

- PAGE 2.—For *Elliott's*, read *Thompson's*.
,, 3.—For *four arches*, read *one arch*.
,, 4.—For *thirteen*, read *fifteen years ago*.
,, 6.—For *three or four*, read *five or six years since*.
,, 21.—For *Captain*, read *Major*.
,, 32.—For *Sanitorium*, read *Sanatorium*.



HISTORY OF ASHFORD.

THE Parish of Ashford, or Eshetisford as it was anciently spelt, probably takes its name from the circumstance that the river which runs through it was formerly known as the Eschet, and might be forded at the spot on which the town now stands. It contains 2,785 acres of land, most of which is gravelly, with much sand towards the west, and many fertile pastures on the south and east. The population amounted in 1861 to 6,950, since which time it has considerably increased, and can hardly be estimated at less than 8,000. Ashford lies in the hundred of Chart and Longbridge, in the Eastern Division of the County of Kent, for which it is a Polling Place, and forms part of the West Ashford Union. Rateable value, £25,160. Distance from London by railway, 67 miles; by road, 56.

The Town is pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence, and is seen to great advantage when approached from the road leading to Hythe and Folkestone. The principal street is wide, well paved, and ornamented with several handsome houses, and commands a pleasing view of the country beyond. Near the centre of the town are Elliott's Library, a singularly picturesque old house, of the date of Elizabeth or James I., adorned in the style called pargetting; and a drinking fountain, presented by Robert Furley, Esq., in 1864; and at a short distance the Assembly Rooms, containing accommodation for the weekly Corn Market, Public Meetings, Balls, the County Court; and on the ground floor, for the Local Board and the Mechanics' Institute—which has a well-supplied Reading Room and a Library of more than a thousand volumes. These rooms are the property of a Company, and have been enlarged and beautified by the shareholders at considerable expense, in order to meet the various requirements of the inhabitants and of the neighbouring agriculturists, on whose support the welfare of the town so largely depends. In the High Street are also situated the Ashford Bank, of Messrs. Jemmett, Pomfret, Burra, and Burra; the

London and County Bank ; the Savings Bank ; the Post Office ; the office of the *Kentish Express*, a local paper started by the present proprietor in 1855, and commanding a weekly circulation of 10,000 ; and the well-known linen manufactory which was carried on for many years by the Houghton family. Here, too, though at some distance from each other, are the chief hotels : the Saracen's Head, the old "Manor House" of Ashford, lately enlarged and improved ; and the Royal Oak, at which the Corn Market was formerly held ; as well as the George Inn, an old-established house, the head-quarters of most of the carriers to the neighbouring villages. At the bottom of the hill is a steam and water-mill, and a stone bridge of four arches crossing the Stour.

The end of North Street nearest to the town has lately been widened by public subscription. This street contains several houses of a superior kind and conducts to the Cemetery, which was opened in 1859, and occupies seven acres of ground purchased of the Dean and Chapter of Rochester. From the Cemetery delightful views are obtained of Eastwell Park—the seat of Lord Winchilsea, and Wye Downs ; with the neighbouring churches of Willesborough, Sevington,

Hinxhill, and Kennington. It has a lodge, with accommodation for the meetings of the Burial Board and for the residence of the curator; and two elegant chapels, one of which—that surmounted by a spire—is intended for the use of the members of the Church of England, and the other for that of the various bodies of Protestant Dissenters. A small portion of the ground is assigned to the Roman Catholics. The whole is very neatly kept, and will repay a visit. It is understood that the entire cost amounted to about £5,000, of which £125 is paid off, together with the interest on the whole sum, by an annual rate. On the south side of the High Street, near to the Assembly Rooms, is Bank Street, a range of houses erected about thirteen years ago on the gardens belonging to the Ashford Bank, and leading by Elwick Road to the New Corn Exchange, a spacious and handsome building opened in 1861, and well adapted for balls and public meetings. Nearly opposite the New Corn Exchange is the Cattle Market. Previous to 1855 sheep and oxen as well as pigs were penned in the centre of the town, to the great inconvenience of females, who scarcely dared to venture into the street, and to the serious annoyance in the summer season of the inhabitants in general. The

evil attracted the notice of some enterprising gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood, by whom a company was formed, and the present most convenient and well-arranged market opened. It has proved in every respect a great success, being well attended by butchers and graziers, and yielding a fair profit to the promoters. In Tufton Street, at no great distance from the Market, are four Alms Houses of neat design, built in 1853-4; and the Police Station, erected in 1864, with a lofty and convenient room for the administration of justice and a residence for the divisional superintendent of police. Opposite the Police Station is a neat building of two stories which was erected in 1865 as a lodging house for the casual poor; it is commodious, cleanly, and well regulated.

In addition to the Parish Church (of which a fuller account will hereafter be given) the town contains the Roman Catholic Chapel of St. Teresa, at Barrow Hill, opened in August, 1865, on which occasion a sermon was preached by Archbishop Manning: the Congregational Chapel, with school-room attached, designed by Mr. Poulton, of Reading, and erected in 1865, in a line with Church Road, at an estimated cost of £3,000: the Wesleyan Chapel in Hempstead Street; the General

Baptist Chapel in St. John's Street : the Particular Baptist Chapel in Norwood Street : and the Friends' Meeting House in New Rents. It has also (besides the Grammar School and several private establishments) a National School, with a house for the master, erected in 1841, where the Barracks formerly stood at Barrow Hill, and enlarged at various periods, in which between 400 and 500 children daily receive an excellent education based on the principles of the Church of England ; and a British School, removed three or four years since to the present neat and commodious premises in West Street, and well reported of by the Government Inspector.

Near the Market Place is a large house which in Hasted's day was the residence of Dr. Isaac Rutton, a physician of long and extensive practice in the town and neighbourhood, being the eldest son of Matthias Rutton, Esq., of Ashford, by Sarah, daughter of Sir Nicolas Toke, of Godinton. Dr. Rutton died in 1792. Since that time the house has been divided into two, one of which is now occupied by J. T. Startup, Esq., and the other by Mr. F. Hyland. At the same period there stood in the High Street a handsome mansion built in 1759 by John Mascall, Esq., who died possessed of

it in 1769, and was buried in Boughton Aluph Church, bearing for his arms Barry of two, *or* and *azure*, three inescutcheons *ermine*. This house occupied the site on which those now inhabited by Messrs. Sheppard, Norwood, Thurston, and Dobree, were subsequently erected, and was pulled down in the earlier half of the present century. At the east end of the town is a residence called Brook Place, which probably took its name from Cranmer Brooke, Esq., described as "of Ashford." He was a grandnephew of Archbishop Cranmer, and of the family of Brooke Lords Cobham, (to whom belonged Sir John Oldcastle, the famous Lollard), and married Abigail, daughter of the third Sir John Fogge, of Repton. Brooke Place was long the seat of the Woodwards, who were always styled in ancient deeds "gentlemen," and bore for their arms Argent, a chevron *sable* between three grasshoppers *or*. William Woodward was buried at Ashford in 1585. His last descendant, John Woodward, having rebuilt the house, died in 1757. From the Woodwards Brooke Place passed through the Bretons to Josias Pattenson, Esq., of Biddenden, who married Mary, widow of John Mascall, Esq., and daughter of Henry Dering, Esq., of this town. It subsequently became the

property of Richard Dawes, Esq., by whom it was sold to Dr. Maund, who having considerably improved the house alienated it on his departure from Ashford in 1865, to F. H. Hallett, Esq., the present owner and occupier.

Some houses near the Market Place and some in North Street exhibit evident marks of antiquity. During some excavations opposite Mr. Thorpe's house a Saxon vessel was discovered, with a skeleton and weapons. The vessel measured nine and a half inches in height, and three and three-quarters inches in width at the top. It is a remarkably fine specimen of the twisted or pillared pattern, of a pale or rather olive green colour, which assumes a deeper shade of green at the lower extremity.

Ashford is supplied with both water and gas, and is under the general management of a Local Board consisting of twenty-one members, of whom seven annually retire but are eligible for re-election. Few towns possess greater advantages in the matter of railway communication; Ashford being a first-class station on the main line of the South Eastern Railway Company, and also the point at which the Canterbury branch diverges on the one hand and the Hastings on the other.

Near the Station, which was newly-built in an improved style in 1865, are the Nursery Grounds of Messrs. Bunyard, in which a flower show is sometimes held during the season, and largely patronised by the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood ; and at a short distance, on the bank of the stream, is "The Whist," a house for some years in the possession of the Greenhill family, bearing on its front the date 1707, and taking its name in all probability from its retired situation—the word "whist" signifying "quiet," and being still used by country people in that sense.

To the south of the line a New Town has sprung up since 1846. The houses, which are the property of the South Eastern Railway Company and occupied by their workmen and officials, are of a neat and uniform character, and arranged for the most part round a central green. Here are public baths, a reading room with library, and a school supported by the company and attended by about 550 children, who are carefully taught by competent instructors.

Almost adjoining to the New Town (originally called Alfred) is South Ashford, consisting of several streets inhabited by persons employed in the Railway Works, many of whom are the owners of

the houses they occupy. To these Railway Works is to be attributed the large increase in the population, which within a few years has rendered Ashford one of the most improving towns in the county. The South Eastern Railway Company here employ upwards of a thousand workmen in the construction of engines and carriages, and with great liberality permit persons properly introduced to inspect the various processes of manufacture. We may also remark that the carriage used by Her Majesty and members of the Royal Family when travelling on the line is kept here. Though now somewhat faded by the lapse of time, it is of elegant design and complete in its fittings, and must have cost a large sum of money when constructed.

Further on to the south, and immediately contiguous to South Ashford, is a district known as Beaver, which in the reign of Henry II. (1154-1189) belonged to John Beauvoir, or Beaver, whose ancestor was one of the followers of William the Conqueror. In what was probably the original farm house of the property—a picturesque black and white house covered with ivy, but in a most dilapidated state, situated at some little distance from the turnpike road—is a floor of Bethersden

marble. Since the establishment of the South Eastern Railway Company's works at New Town, just referred to, a large number of houses have been erected in the whole of this neighbourhood, and an increasing population of upwards of two thousand persons is now to be found where but a few years since a few cottages were thinly scattered in the green fields. To meet the requirements of the district, a church, known as Christ Church, and capable of containing six hundred worshippers, has been erected on a site given by G. E. Jemmett, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Ashford. The estimated cost is £3,700. The architect was Mr. H. J. Austin, and the builders Messrs. Steddy, Joy, and Steddy, of this town. It was opened for Divine Service on the 1st of May, 1867.

THE MANOR OF ASHFORD.

OF the Norman nobles whose services the Conqueror recompensed by liberal grants from the forfeited lands of the defeated Saxons, few had more reason to congratulate themselves than Hugo de Montfort. Large estates were bestowed upon him in different counties. Among them he obtained the Manor of Ashford, which was entered in the famous record of Domesday under the general title of his possessions: "Maigno holds of Hugo Estefort. Turgisus held it of Earl Godwin, and it is taxed at 'one suling.' The arable land is half a carucate. There is, nevertheless, in demesne one carucate, and two villeins having one carucate. There are two servants and eight acres of meadow. In the time of King Edward the Confessor it was worth twenty-five shillings; when he received it, twenty shillings; now, thirty shillings. The same Hugo holds Essela. Three tenants held it of King Edward, and could go whither they would with their lands. It was taxed at three yokes. The arable

land is one carucate and a half. There are now four villeins with two borderers, having one carucate and six acres of meadow. The whole in the reign of King Edward the Confessor was worth twenty shillings, and afterwards fifteen shillings, now twenty shillings. Maigno held another Essetisford of the same Hugo. Wirelm held it of King Edward. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is four carucates. In demesne there are two, and two villeins with fifteen borderers, having three carucates. There is a church, and a priest, and three servants, and two mills of ten shillings and two pence. In the time of King Edward the Confessor it was worth seventy shillings, and afterwards sixty shillings, now one hundred shillings."

The family of Montfort, however, were not destined to a long enjoyment of their acquisitions; for Robert de Montfort, the grandson of Hugh, having espoused the cause of Duke Robert of Normandy, the elder and ill-used brother of Henry I., was glad to purchase life and liberty at the cost of property, and obtained permission to go on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, leaving his possessions in the hands of the King. The Manor of Ashford appears to have been soon afterwards granted to a family who

adopted its name as their own. William de Asshetesford, as Lord of this Manor, gave to the Priory of Horton divers rents paid by the tenants of the yoke of Northbrooke in this parish, which gift was confirmed by Maud de Asshetesford, widow of Simon de Crioll, before the Justices Itinerant at Canterbury, Anno 55, Henry 3. Matilda, as heir to her father, had carried this Manor in marriage to Sir Simon de Crioll, a son of that Bertram de Crioll, who was popularly known as the "Great Lord of Kent." Simon died in 1267, having obtained for this Manor about twenty-five years before a charter of free warren. The jury at the inquisition on his death found that "the said Matilda held of our Lord the King in capite two knights' fees in Essetford, Seventon, and Ustesture and Pakemanston, to wit, three carucates of land with their appurtenances which are worth per annum £20, with the advowson of the Church of Essetford, which is worth per annum thirty marks, by payment annually of 20s. to the Ward of the Castle of Dover. And they say that the said Simon held nothing of our Lord the King in capite; but held at Moningeham 240 acres in gavelkind of the Prior of the Holy Trinity, and 60 acres at Twycham of the Lord Archbishop; and at Swat-

ford, of the Abbot of St. Augustine, 60 acres of stubborn land; and at Sadhokesherst, of William and Henry de Sadokesherst, 60 acres of most stubborn land. And he has eight sons, who all equally succeed him in the aforesaid inheritance, and the said Matilda holds in right of marriage a moiety of all the aforesaid land so long as she is a widow." William de Crioll, son of Simon and Matilda, after the death of his mother, and in accordance with her intention, exchanged this Manor for Stocton in Huntingdonshire and Romford in Essex with Roger de Leybourne. Ashford thus came into the possession of one of the most remarkable of the old baronial families of Kent, and its new master was himself not the least noticeable of his race. Roger de Leybourne, emphatically "a man of war from his youth," passed his whole life between the tilting lists and the battle field—"as seeming war some merry sport to hold." "We have him one day, from pure revenge, killing purposely an old adversary in a mere tilting-joust; then a few years later, out, like his father before him, with his fellow barons in open rebellion, and during that rebellion ever and anon seeking adventures in wild forays and wasting raids; but afterwards, when the French King had arbitrated be-

tween Henry and his insurgent barons, in loyal compliance with the award of that arbitration, he attached himself to his lawful sovereign; thenceforward with faithful allegiance ever strenuously fighting for the King; at Northampton, in the gallant defence of Rochester Castle, on the fatal field of Lewes, and in the crowning victory at Evesham. In almost every public act, mission, or convention he appears for many years prominent as the most confidential and active servant of the Crown, till he ended his stirring career in 1271, while bearing part, like a true knight, in Prince Edward's Crusade to the Holy Land." Sir Roger was succeeded by his son, Sir William de Leyburn, a man of great eminence and wealth. He largely increased his paternal property by a marriage with Juliana, the daughter and heir of Sir Henry de Sandwico, and being present with Edward I. at the Siege of Carlaverock, is strongly marked by the chronicler as "a brave man, without a 'but' or an 'if.'" On the death of Sir William, in 1309, his estates descended to his grand-daughter, the famous Juliana, called from the immense extent of her possessions in this county "the Infanta of Kent." She was thrice married; first, to John Lord Hastings and Abergavenny, by whom she

had a son, Lawrence, created Earl of Pembroke, secondly to Thomas le Blount, and thirdly to William de Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon, Governor of Dover Castle and King's Admiral from the Thames westward. The inventory of her goods, which has descended to our days, testifies to the opulence and magnificence as well as the lavish hospitality with which she resided at her seat of Preston. Having already bestowed many of her manors on religious houses, she, five years previous to her death, conveyed the rest of her paternal inheritance to the King, reserving to herself only a life interest therein, with a view to its being at her death divided among certain religious establishments. She died in 1367, and this manor of Ashford then passed into the hands of the Crown till Richard II. rested it in Feoffees for the performance of certain pious bequests of the lately deceased Edward III., and the Feoffees soon afterwards, with the King's licence, bestowed it as an endowment on the collegiate chapel of St. Stephen, at Westminster. On some false suggestions, however, of Sir Simon de Burley, the King deprived the Dean and Canons of these possessions and conferred them on *him*; but he did not long enjoy his gains, being condemned for high treason

in 1387, when they reverted to their previous owners, until in the first year of Edward VI., 1547, the collegiate chapel with all its endowments was surrendered to the Crown. Two years after the surrender, the King granted the Manor of Ashford, with that of Wall, and the Manor of Esture (East Stour), to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Otterden, who sold them in 1555 to Sir Andrew Judde. Sir Andrew was a native of Tunbridge, where he founded the Grammar School, and having served the office of Lord Mayor of London in 1552, he died in 1558, and was buried in St. Helen's Church, leaving an only daughter, Alice, married to Thomas Smith, Esq., of Westenhanger. This Thomas Smith, usually called the Customer, from his having farmed the customs of the Port of London, had acquired an immense fortune, and receiving from Queen Elizabeth a grant of the Manor of Westenhanger, resided there, in the mansion which he greatly beautified. It was a seat of much historic interest. Tradition says that in one of its massive towers, which yet bears the name of Rosamond's, the frail beauty, previous to her removal to Woodstock, received the visits of her royal lover. If not erected by one of the great family of Crioll, it was certainly enlarged and fortified by them. The

walls were very high and of great thickness, the whole of them embattled, and strengthened with nine large towers. It contained a chapel built by Sir Edward Poynings in the time of Henry VIII. with a vaulted roof of stone, a great hall fifty feet long, one hundred and twenty-six rooms, and, by report, three hundred and sixty-five windows. Sir Thomas died in 1591, and was succeeded by his son, Sir John Smith, High Sheriff of Kent, in 1602, who, dying in 1609, was buried like his father in the south transept of Ashford Church, leaving a son, created in 1628 Viscount Strangford. The Smith family remained in possession of this Manor until 1709, when, on the death of Philip, third Viscount Strangford (whose remains are also interred in this church) it passed, under the provisions of his will, to Henry Roper, Lord Teynham, who had married Catherine, his eldest daughter. The Ropers were a race of great antiquity. One of them, John Roper, of Canterbury, lent Richard II. forty pounds towards fitting out a fleet against the French and the Scots. Another, William Roper, of St. Dunstan's and Linsted, married the learned and excellent Margaret, daughter of the ill-fated Sir Thomas More. Lord Teynham settled this Manor of Ashford on his second wife, Anne,

afterwards Baroness Dacre, and on his issue by her, to the exclusion of his sons by his first wife, the daughter of Lord Strangford. On the death of the Hon. Charles Roper, Lady Dacre's son, the property descended (subject to their mother's life interest) to his heirs in gavel-kind, Trevor-Charles and Henry Roper, but they being infants and the estates heavily incumbered, an Act of Parliament was obtained to authorise the sale of this and their other property. The premises with which we are concerned were thus described in the Act—"The Manor of Ashford, alias Ashtisford, with its rents, members, and appurtenances, viz., the capital messuage called the Saracen's Head Inn and the shops under the same, and two parcels of land called 'the Park' containing four acres, and divers shops, houses, and pieces of land, in Ashford." Accordingly, in 1765, the Rev. Francis Hender Foote, of Bishopsbourne, became the purchaser of this Manor, by whose descendant, Robert Foote, Esq., it was conveyed to the family of its present possessor, George Elwick Jemmett, Esq.

At the last sale, the Saracen's Head—the old manorial residence—became detached from the manor. Until the recent alterations it contained some carved oak, and had a picturesque gable at the back.

The Manor of Wall was sold by Mr. Foote in 1768 to John Toke, Esq., of Godinton, and is now the property of Captain John Leslie Toke.

The farm (or demesne lands) of the Manor of Esture, or East Stour, was many years since alienated by one of the Viscounts Strangford, and has from that period been in the possession of separate owners from those of Ashford Manor. In 1628 East Stour was occupied by the Halls, a family of some consideration in the neighbourhood, to whom a coat of arms had been granted by Robert Cooke, Clarenceux, in 1588. At the close of the last century it belonged to Mr. Rooke, an officer in the East India Company's service, and has since passed by sale, through Head and Whitfeld, to Sir Richard Tufton, Bart. The house is pleasantly situated, and is inhabited by the family of the late Walter Murton, Esq.

THE MANOR OF REPTON.

THE Manors of Great and Little Repton, formerly part of the possessions of St. Augustine's, at Canterbury, are thus described in Domesday-Book: "The Abbot himself holds one yoke, Rapentone and Ansered of him, and it was taxed at one yoke. The arable land is two carucates. In demesne there is one with four borderers. There are eleven acres of meadow, and the fourth part of a mill, of fifteenpence, and wood for the pannage of ten hogs, and as yet there are two yokes which the Abbot gave it of his demesne, and there are two villeins with eight borderers. In the time of King Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth three pounds, now four pounds."

These Manors were held by knight's service of the Abbot by the eminent family of Valoigns, who possessed considerable estates at Swerdling, in the parish of Petham, and Tremworth, in Crun-

dall. Ruellon de Valoigns resided at Repton, and had this county *in ferm* from King Stephen, at the rent of £260 *ad pensam*, and £76 and 20*d. de numero*. He was also sheriff in the first year of Henry II., 1154. The same office was filled by his son, Allan de Valoigns, from 1184 to 1189. The name of Waretius de Valoigns appears in the catalogue of Kentish gentlemen who were present with Richard the Lion-hearted at the famous siege of Acre; and that of Sir William de Valoigns among those who received the honour of Knighthood from the hands of the first Edward for their bravery at the no less famed siege of Carlaverock. But the name of Valoigns was known in connection with posts of civil honour as well as with deeds of warlike fame—in the great council of the nation as well as under the burning sky of Palestine, or on the storm-tossed coast of Scotland—for on six occasions, from 1300 to 1375, was a Valoigns chosen to represent this county in Parliament. At length Waretius de Valoigns dying in the reign of Edward III. without male issue, this Manor and seat of Repton passed to his daughter and co-heir Joane, the wife of Sir Francis Fogge. The Fogge family, to which the town of Ashford is so greatly indebted, was of northern extraction,

and migrated from Lancashire into Kent in the person of Otho, the grandfather of the fortunate Francis. Sir Francis resided at Repton, and was buried in Cheriton Church "with his portraiture cross-legged affixed to his sepulchral stone, which implies that he had obliged himself by some vow to assert the cross and sepulchre of our Saviour." Sir Thomas Fogge, his son, and successor in the possession of this manor, was buried at Glastonbury in Somerset, having been thrice Knight of the Shire, and married to Anne Countess of Joyeux, whose remains lie in Ashford Church. The second Sir Thomas Fogge, heir of the first, was a great warrior. He espoused Joane, daughter of Sir Stephen de Valence, a lady in whose veins flowed the blood royal of England, being the descendant of William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, half-brother to Henry III. She died in 1425. Sir Thomas attended "Old John of Gaunt, time-honoured Lancaster," to Spain in 1386 on his expedition against the King of Castile, whose crown he claimed; and having several times represented this county in Parliament, died in 1407, and was interred in the nave of Canterbury Cathedral, where his effigy in complete armour formerly existed with the following inscription:—

"Thomas Fogge jacet hic, jacet hic sua sponsa Johanna,
Sint Coelo Cives per te Deus hos et Hosanna,
Regni Protector Francos Britones superavit,
Nobilium Rector sicuti Leo castra predavit
Et quoque militiam sic pro patria peramavit,
Ad summam patriam Deus hinc ab agone vocavit."

His grandson, Sir John Fogge, merits on many accounts the grateful notice of every well-wisher of the town of Ashford. We find him, the lord of immense territories, taking a leading part in the struggles of the eventful days wherein his lot was cast, then closing an active life in peace and honour, the munificent patron of the parish in which he lived, and of the church within whose walls he found his last earthly home. Already the heir of the Fogges and the Valoignses, he added to his possessions the domains of the Criolls by his marriage with Alice, daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Crioll, of Westenhanger. Sir Thomas was left on the field of St. Albans by the Yorkists to deliver up their prisoner Henry VI. after their defeat on Shrove Tuesday, 1461. The gentle Henry had promised him his life, but Queen Margaret, elated with her triumph, had him beheaded the next day. Harding, however, in some quaint verses, makes him to have been slain in the battle :—

“The lords of the north southward came
To Saint Albones, upon the fasting gang eve,
Where then thei slewe the Lord Bonville I leve
And Sir Thomas Kyriell, also of Kent,
With mekell folke, that pitce was to see.”

In the desolating wars of the Roses, Sir John Fogge appears to have at first espoused the cause of the house of Lancaster, as he held the office of keeper of the wardrobe to the unfortunate Henry VI. Some circumstance, however, induced him to change his side in the great national quarrel. His subsequent marriage with Alice Haute, who had previously been the wife of a Woodville, and consequently a relative of the Queen of Edward IV. would tend to bind him to the rising fortunes of the line of York. In the favour of Edward he soon held a high place, being made Comptroller of the Household and a Privy Councillor, besides twice, if not thrice, serving as Sheriff of Kent. His zealous attachment to the new sovereign is testified by an incident related by Weever that “he sate with the Duke of Clarence, the Earl of Warwick, and the Lord Rivers, in judgment upon Sir Thomas Cooke, of Giddie Hall, in Essex,” on an indictment presented by himself. Sir Thomas, though seemingly innocent of the imputed crime—that of

lending money for the service of Queen Margaret—was hardly dealt with, nor from the constitution of the court could an impartial decision be expected. Fogge also appears to have taken an active part in Edward's expedition against France in 1475, as a letter is extant in which the King commands the Prior of Christ Church, Canterbury, to deliver "unto our trusty and right well-beloved Knight, Sir John Fogge, also our counsellor, and others, the summe of a thousand marks that ye have of ours in keeping, to the entent that they may furnish out in all haste a thousand archers forthwith to depart to the Towne of Calaise." But neither in the cares of state, nor in the pleasures of the court, did Sir John forget the interests of his own immediate neighbours. Lambarde tells us that "King Edward the Fourth in the fifth year of his reign (1465) did give a fair to be holden at Asheford four daies yearly, beginning on the even of St. John Port Latine, by the suit (as it seemeth) of the same Sir John Fogge, his controller, for the amendment of the towne, to which his house at Ripton was neighbour."* He founded also the

* Its days no doubt became May 17 and 18, instead of May 6, &c., by the operation of the Act of 1752, in which Fairs were specially exempted from removal by the New Style, and remaining actually on the same day, became nominally eleven days later.

College for a Prebendary or Master, two Chaplains, and two secular Clerks, to celebrate Divine Service for ever, and completely renovated the Parish Church, building from the foundation the lofty and elegant tower which still testifies to his taste, and providing by a bequest of houses and lands for the permanent support of the fabric to which he had been so liberal a benefactor. The death of Edward, however, reversed his position. His attachment to that monarch's family brought on an attainder in the succeeding reign and the forfeiture of his lands. We have no means of knowing whether he was or was not actively engaged on the side of Richmond, but if he drew no sword at Bosworth field, it is certain that the first year of Henry's reign witnessed his restoration to the vast estates of which he had been deprived. The few remaining years of his life were passed in tranquil prosperity, and at length the man of many fights, the friend and counsellor of kings, paid the debt of nature, August, 1490, and was buried where now stands the gorgeous tomb he had ordered for himself on the north side of the High Altar in Ashford Church. His eldest son, Sir John Fogge, succeeded him in this manor of Ripton, and *his* grandson of the same name, having procured his

lands to be disgavelled in 1540, and being subsequently Knighted, kept his Shrievalty here in the 36th year of Henry VIII., and dying in 1564, was buried with his ancestors in the family vault. Sir John left an only son and heir, Edward Fogge, Esq., who dying without issue in 1573, this manor came, under the entail in his father's will, to his uncle, George Fogge, Esq., of Braborne, who soon afterwards sold this ancient seat of his family to Sir Michael Sondes, of Throwley, and he conveyed it to John Tufton, Esq., of Hothfield, afterwards Knight and Baronet, whose son Nicholas was created in 1629 Earl of Thanet. The Tufton family, whose name was originally written Toketon, held land at Rainham in this county as early as the reign of King John. In the time of Richard II. one of them was seated at Northiam, in Sussex, where they remained till John Tufton, Esq., removed to Hothfield, on receiving a grant of that manor from Henry VIII. Sir Richard Tufton, Bart., is the present owner of Great and Little Repton.

After the sale of Repton the Fogge family declined in importance. Of all the Manors left by Sir John one only remained to his descendants at the close of the next century—that of Dane Court, Tilman-

stone. Here for three generations they resided as country gentlemen of moderate means. Richard Fogge, Esq., however, espousing the cause of Charles I. paid the penalty of his loyalty, and the ruin of his ancient line was soon completed. "At this time," says Warren, 1711, "according to the vicissitude of human affairs, all ye estate in ye family, notwithstanding their great possessions formerly, is not much above £50 per annum. Indeed Captain Christopher Fogge (who was once taken by ye Turks and for whom no small sum was paid to redeem him from slavery) improved his estate by using ye sea many years after his redemption: but he dying without issue and his lady succeeding to all he was worth, the descendants of the Foggess are excluded from enjoying ye fruits of the Captain's labours. He was Commander of the *Rupert*, a third rate man-of-war. He died aboard his own ship in the River Thames soon after he came home from his last voyage in or about ye year 1707." Richard Fogge, mariner, whose sister had married a blacksmith at Sandwich, sold Dane Court in 1724, and left, 1740, an only child, Elizabeth Fogge, who in the latter portion of the last century was living in a wretched hovel at Eastry, the wife of a poor shepherd.

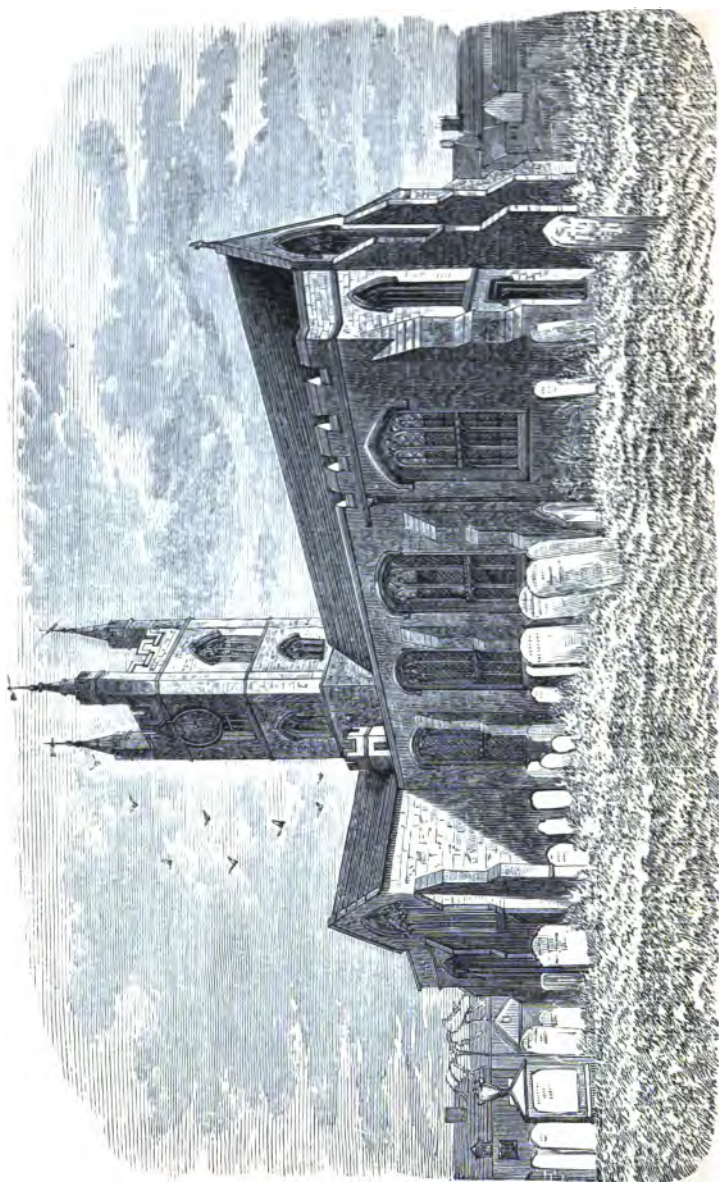
The old mansion at Repton, long since converted into a farm-house, was pulled down some years ago and the present dwelling erected in its place. The following account is taken from Warren's M.S. written in 1712. "The House is pleasantly situated. There is a good prospect from ye house; Lodge-wood, the Hoads, a Park^e (now dispark'd) and a Warren in ye Park at a little distance from ye House. There was formerly a very large pond, producing fish and wild-fowl in great abundance, but by breaking of its banks is long since decayed, the streams only now remaining that used to feed it. The House is fallen very much from ye ancient stateliness which 'tis likely it had when ye families above-mentioned resided there; but so much of ye building as remains is substantial. The Building is of Needlework like ye college or vicarage-house; and though there is now nobody that remembers much more of ye building than is now standing yet formerly it was much larger than it is at present. There still appear ye ruines of some walls at several rods distance from ye building which now remains, and particularly there are some ruines of a stone-building on that side of ye house towards Chart, which by ye foundations seem to have been ye

walls of a large room, under which there is still a large vault extending itself ye whole length and breadth of ye room above. There are also other vaults or cellars under ye house yt is now standing. I have been informed by John Rigden, ye servant, that there are about 300 acres of land belonging to this ffarm. I had ye curiosity not long since to descend into ye large vault above-mentioned ; I judge it to be about 24 ffeet long, and about 12 feet broad, and about 10 ffeet high. It is well arched, has several iron rings still remaining in ye ceiling ; but ye pavement (if ever there was any) is dug up : the cellar stairs quite gone or covered with deep dirt."

Repton is situated about a mile from the centre of the town and is in the occupation of Mr. John Fitch Spicer.

The usual Courts are still held for this manor, and for the Manor of Ashford.

At a little distance, on the confines of the Warren and commanding a fine view, is the Sanitorium, erected by H. Whitfeld, Esq., as a place to which persons suffering from infectious complaints may be removed, and there nursed at a moderate cost. Further on, and at the extreme limit of the parish, is Sandhurst, the substantial residence of Mr. H. Foster, and property of Sir R. Tufton. It lies pleasantly in a sheltered valley.



ASHFORD CHURCH.

THE CHURCH.

THE Parish Church of Ashford forms a conspicuous object in the landscape and stands near the centre of the town, of which it is the chief ornament. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and is a large cruciform building, consisting of a nave with aisles, transepts, and three chancels, surmounted at the point of intersection by a lofty tower, in which are a clock, eight bells, and a set of musical chimes.

There was a Church at Ashford when Domesday Book was compiled. The present building dates from the time of Henry I., but was so altered and reconstructed by Sir John Fogge, who flourished in the reign of Edward IV., that, as a whole, it may be called a Perpendicular edifice of the latter half of the fifteenth century.

In length it measures 136 feet, and in breadth, at the widest, 100 feet. The height of the tower

is 120 feet. The church will contain 1700 persons. Of the galleries, with which the nave is unfortunately but necessarily surrounded, the west was erected in 1772, the south in 1717, the north in 1718. This last was formed by the junction of two, one of which was put up in 1616, and the other, ornamented with the Knatchbull Arms and intended for the use of the Grammar School, in 1637. The pews (good of their kind) now in the body of the church were erected by faculty in 1745.

The western portion of the south transept was formerly fitted up as the Archdeacon's Court, while the eastern was railed off as the Strangford Aisle, but the whole was furnished with handsome open seats and dedicated to the use of the parishioners in 1856.

In 1827 the aisles of the nave were widened in order to supply additional accommodation, but the original proportions of the church were restored and 230 new sittings obtained by throwing out a bay to the westward in 1860. This work, which has given general satisfaction, was executed from the design of Joseph Clarke, Esq., diocesan architect. The whole has been substantially carried out in ragstone, even to the very cross on the gable, and there is certainly no evidence on

record of so extensive an use of this material as ashlar since the extinction of our own Christian architecture.

The great west window is universally admired, both for the excellence of the stone-work and for the quality of the stained glass with which it has been filled by Messrs. Lavers and Barraud. Each of the ten compartments contains a scene in the life of our Saviour. In the lower tier to the left we have the Annunciation, followed by the Visit of the Virgin to Elizabeth, the Visit of the Wise Men, the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, and the Flight into Egypt. In the first compartment to the left of the upper tier is Christ among the Doctors, succeeded by the Marriage in Cana, the Crucifixion, the Burial, and Christ Risen. Underneath the several compartments are the following inscriptions—"Elizabeth Greenhill, died 29 March, 1862, aged 91."—"William Whitfeld, Chirurgus, obt. Aprilis 19, 1838, ætat 68. Martha, uxor ejus, obt. Aprilis 26, 1833, ætat 51."—"Abp. Sumner, died Sept. 6, 1862."—"Richard Greenhill, died March 14, 1829, aged 60 years."—"Edward Watson Simonds, died March 6th, 1861, aged 67."—"Charles Mercer, of Maidstone, for 15 years resident in this town, died March 15th,

1861, aged 40." "John Elliott, died Jan. 10th, 1861, aged 83. Harriott Elliott, died July 5th, 1822, aged 36."—"Mark Dorman, died Jany. 12th, 1860, aged 76 years. Mary Ann Dorman, died Feb. 22, 1853, aged 67 years."

The east window of the north chancel is filled with stained glass by Willement, representing St. Peter, St. James, and St. John, the three Apostles selected by our Lord to be present with Him on some of the more remarkable occasions of His life. Under the figure of St. Peter (in the centre) is the following inscription—"James Wall, of this parish, died Feb. 20, 1852, aged 77 years." Under St. James—"Hannah Startup, died April 13th, 1852, aged 66 years. Thomas Startup, died Nov. 25, 1857, aged 75 years." Under St. John—"Charles Dorman, died June 14th, 1854, aged 8 years. Louisa Dorman, died April 16th, 1860, aged 40."

The corresponding window of the south chancel, also by Willement, contains the figures of St. Paul and his two companions in travel, St. Barnabas and St. Luke. Under the central figure of St. Paul are these words—"Revd. Thomas Wood, 21 years the respected vicar of this parish, died Nov. 23, 1847, aged 78 years." Under St. Barnabas—

"To Rev. J. P. Alcock, M.A., in grateful remembrance of his kind attention to Caroline Harrison, who died in London, Aug. 28th, 1854." Under St. Luke—"Memor amicitiae Mariæ, Rev. W. Curteis, M.A., viduæ quæ obt. anno æt. 69, A.D. 1853, hanc fenestram ornavit, Rev. J. P. Alcock, M.A., hujus Eccl. Vic."

The window at the south-east corner of the chancel was filled in 1865 with stained glass by Lavers and Barraud, at the cost of the Vicar, as a memorial to his younger daughter, who died 22nd June, 1857, aged 18. The centre compartment represents our Saviour blessing little children, that to the left Christ the Good Shepherd, and that to the right Jesus knocking at the door of the heart. All three subjects are most effectively treated both as to colour and drawing.

The middle compartment of the corresponding window on the opposite side commemorates John Matson, 43 years organist of this church, who died May 17, 1865, aged 70. The subject is King David playing on the harp with the legend.

The Altar-piece, although unsuited to its position in a Gothic edifice, and blocking up the lower portion of the window behind it, is not without a beauty of its own, being ornamented with leaves

NOTE.—The legend on the window in memory of the late John Matson (page 27) is—

"Praise God in His sanctuary."—150 Psalm I v.

and flowers finely carved in wood. It was erected under circumstances of some interest. During the troubled times of the Great Rebellion the old altar was pulled down by the then churchwardens, who were so proud of their exploit that they caused their names, Joy Star and Wm. Worsley, to be cut in stone and let into the chancel wall as a memorial. This remained until the year 1695, when the stone was taken down and the inscription picked out with indignation, by Mr. Marsh, an attorney of the town, and others.* A subscription was soon afterwards set on foot for the purpose of re-building the Altar and Altar-piece, in order, as the promoters expressed it, to "testify our sincerity and due regard to y^e order and decent appendices of our church, and yt that place where peace and reconciliation are made between God and man may no longer continue, as it is now to our shame, y^e place of brawls and contentious disputes of y^e parishioners." The sum raised amounted to £75, including £5 5s. *od.* from the Earl of Thanet, £5 5s. *od.* from the Dean and Chapter of Rochester, and £10 from Sir George Wheler. About the time this Altar-Piece was set up the cieling of the

* A portion of the stone, with some of the letters still legible, lies on the exterior, near the chancel door.

chancel, consisting of 80 panels (long since destroyed) was painted in blue and gold. The Altar chairs now in use were presented by Mrs. Whitfeld Curteis.

In the High Chancel is a double row of stalls, with the returns, of excellent design—some of which are old, and the remainder “restored” in a style to correspond. These stalls are of the kind usual in collegiate churches, and were intended for the use of the collegiate body. The seats, instead of being fixed, turn upon hinges, and when turned up exhibit on the under side a mass of carving—fruit and foliage—the pelican “in her piety”—and swine feeding on acorns. It seems, that out of pity to the aged and infirm, who needed the support afforded by the bracket, these seats were turned up in those portions of the service in which it was not allowable to sit. Hence seats of this character received in France the name of “*misericordes*,” and “*patiences*,” while in England they have been usually called “*misereres*.”

The Reading-Desk, handsomely carved in an appropriate style, was the gift, in 1855, of G. E. Jemmett, Esq.

The interior of this Church is rendered very striking by the number of pillars it contains, and,

especially, by the majestic columns supporting the tower. The arrangement of the east end, with chancel and transept aisles, which were, doubtless, used as separate chapels, leads to the impression that the earlier plan was based on a foreign design—an idea not at all improbable from the proximity of Ashford to the Continent.

The Church offers several features to the notice of the lover of antiquity—each of them shall be treated of in order:—

1. The Atholl Brass. 2. The Founder's Tomb.
3. The Founder's Helmet. 4. The Smythe Monuments. 5. An ancient Date.

1. In the middle chancel is a Brass, which Weever says "presenteth the greatest glory and antiquitie to this church." When complete it represented a woman under a canopy, surmounted by the Arms of England. She held in her right hand a banner bearing the Arms of Atholl, and in her left a banner with the Arms of Ferrers, while four other Coats (one a cross impaling chevronels) were placed beside the figure—two on each side. The inscription, in old French, ran as follows:—
"Icy gist Elisabeth ladye countesse D'Athels la fille le Seignr de Ferrers q Dieu assoil qe le morust le xxij jour d' Octobr l'an de gre 1375." "Here

lies the Lady Elizabeth, Countess of Atholl, daughter of the Lord Ferrers, whose sins God forgive. She died the 22 day of October, in the year of grace 1375." The recent investigations of Mr. Herbert Smith identify her with Elizabeth, daughter of Henry, Lord Ferrers, of Groby, and wife of David Strabolgie, fourth and last Earl of Atholl. That gentleman writes—"Vincent's Pedigree gives the date of the Earl's death as 1370, which affords about five years' survivorship for his wife, during which time she is described as having married Malweyn, of Ashford. Had the Inquisitions recorded the name as Malmmain, or Valoignes, the association would have appeared intelligible, the Malmains having large property at Waldershare and Pluckley, and the Valoignes great possessions at Ashford, as also had the Fogges, with one of whom, Thomas Fogge, Esq., of Ashford, she is also associated, says Hasted, in a pedigree of Bargrave's, whom he therefore thinks might have been a third husband. There is another pedigree in the College of Arms, in which Malweyn is given as a marriage previous to Atholl. We are thus left to conjecture by which of her reputed husbands she found her place in Ashford. That she died there, and had married John Malweyn, is

specifically stated in the Inquisition." The Brass is now much mutilated—all the Coats but two are gone, and of these two one has been misplaced.

2. The Tomb of Sir John Fogge, who may be called the re-founder of the church, stands on the north side of the Altar, between the chancel and the Fogge chapel. It is still handsome, although stripped of most of its original ornaments. These consisted of brass effigies of himself and his two wives, Alice Crioll and Alice Haute. "He was attired in rich plate armour, and decorated with the Yorkist collar of suns and roses, with the white lion of Marche attached. His head reclined on his helmet, adorned with mantlings and crest. At his feet sat an Italian greyhound. On either hand lay his two wives. Their mantles were fastened with roses; at the feet of each crouched a dog with knotted leading strings. On the south side of the tomb, which was enriched by panelling of Gothic arches, were three shields of arms—Crioll, Haute, and Valoignes impaling Fogge. On the north side the centre ornament was an angel supporting an inscription plate within an endless circle, formed of rose sapling sticks firmly bound together, perhaps to represent the stability of family unity, the vitality of which is indicated by

four small sprouts of rose branches with leaves and blossoms. Four large bosses of the united Roses proclaimed a Yorkist's acquiescence in the peaceable conclusion of intestine commotion." The plate bore the following inscription :—

"Plenius hic sequitur quid fecerat iste Johannes,
Sumptibus ex propriis hanc ecclesiam renovavit
Cum campanili quod funditus ædificavit
Pluribus atque libris Chorus hic per eum veneratur
Ac ornamentis : Altare Dei decoratur
Vestibulum ditans et plura jocalia donans
Ut patet intuitu pro posteribus memoranda
Ad laudem Domini cui laus sit nunc et in ævum.

Amen."

Which may be thus translated :—

Here follows more at large what things this John had done ;
At his own charge this Church he hath restored
Along with the Bell-Tower, which from the foundation he hath
reared.

Here through him the Choir with many a Book and Ornament
Adores : the Altar of God he decorates,
Enriching the entrance thereto and many gems bestowing there-
upon

(As it is clearly to be seen) for after ages to be told of,
To the glory of the Lord, to whom be praise both now and
evermore. Amen.

An inscription round the margin of the slab, of which only a part remained in 1631, "Edwardi quarti regis. specialis Amator, semper Catholicus,

Populi vulgaris, amicus, et sic decedens a mundo mente,” completed the memorial. The head of Sir John Fogge and the inscription plate are the only portions of brass which now remain. The tomb was formerly surmounted by a carved canopy of wood, which, being greatly decayed, was removed in 1697.

In the vault under this monument it is said that twenty members of this family have been buried. “However,” writes Warren, “when it was opened about thirty years ago to deposit ye body of one Mr. Naylor there, according to ye account which I have had from those yt descended into ye vault out of curiosity, which is common at such a time, when it had not been opened in the memory of men then living, it appeared yt ye bodies of all those yt had been there deposited were shrunk into a very narrow compass.

“Mors sola fatetur,

“Quantula sint hominum corpuscula.”

Small pieces of bones, and small pieces of coffins, an old sword and a pair of spurs, and not much dust, appearing at their entering into it.” Weever says of this Church that “there hang in the Quire the Achievements of sixe of that ancient and noble familie that have had their funeral obsequies

attended with Heralds of Armes" and the irons to which the banners, &c., were fastened yet remain.

3. On the North wall of the Repton or Fogge Chancel hangs a tilting Helmet—*interesting* as having belonged to Sir John Fogge—whose tomb has just been described—the munificent renovator of the Church and founder of the College—and *remarkable* both for its size and for a circular aperture on the side, which was probably intended for the purpose of hearing as the Helmet is supplied with the usual means of ventilation. It weighs 23lb. 15oz.

4. The South Transept contains three very handsome monuments of the Jacobean age, erected to memory of several members of the Smythe family, formerly Lords of the Manor of Ashford.

The first commemorates Thomas Smith, Esq., of Westenhanger, who died 7th June, 1591, having had six sons and six daughters by his wife, Alice, heiress of Sir Andrew Judde. He was a man of immense wealth, and usually called "Customer Smith," from his having farmed the customs of the port of London.

The second is a memorial to his son, Sir John Smythe, of Westenhanger, Knight, and Elizabeth, his wife, sole heiress of John Fineux, Esq., of

Herne. "They lived married together about 30 years, and had issue 2 sons and 6 daughters, whereof three only survived them, whose portraitures are here presented, viz., Tho. Smythe, his sonne and heyer; Catherine, married to Sir Harry Baker, of Sissinghurst; and Elizabeth, maryed to Sir Harry Nevell, ye younger, of Billingbeare, in the County of Barck, Knight." Sir John was sheriff of Kent in 1600, and died in 1609.

The third is erected to the memory of Sir Richard Smythe, Knight, of Leeds Castle, fourth son of the above-mentioned Thomas Smith, Esq., of Westenhanger. Sir Richard was Receiver of the Duchy of Cornwall, and Surveyor General and Commissioner for the revenues assigned to Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I. He was, according to his epitaph, "a just officer in his accounts, which he perfected with much contentment where he was trusted. His love to his wives, children, and friends, was extraordinary, and he tenderly did respect them. His bounty to the poor was very great." He died 21 July, 1628, aged 63, having been thrice married, and each time to a widow. By the first, a daughter of Sir John Scott, of Scott's Hall, he had an only son and two

daughters. By the second a daughter, Mary; and by the third, who survived him, a daughter, Margaret. On all these monuments lie the recumbent figures of those whom they commemorate, with their various armorial bearings duly blazoned. It will be observed that in some instances the children on the side of the tombs are represented with a skull in their hands. This denotes that they died before their parents. In the same transept is a window filled with the coats of arms of the Smythe family, painted in 1834, at the cost of their representative, Percy Sydney, sixth Viscount Strangford, celebrated for his literary attainments, ambassador to Portugal, Brazil, Sweden, Turkey, and Russia, who died in 1855, and is here buried. Under the window is a brass plate to commemorate Ellen, daughter of Sir Thomas Burke, Bart., of Marble Hill, county Galway, and wife of the above Viscount Strangford. She died at St. Petersburg, 22 May, 1826, aged 37. The plate also mentions the Hon. Lionel Sydney Smythe, her second son, who died in 1834, at the age of 13, and is interred in the same vault with his father.

5. On a beam, running from the north-east corner of the Tower to the north Transept, is a

date, of which the following notice is given in a paper read at the meeting of the Royal Society, June 7th, 1744—"I shall only beg leave to communicate the copies of two ancient dates in Arabian figures, which were imparted to me by the Rev. Dr. Wm. Warren, sen., Fellow of Trinity Hall, in Cambridge, they were both taken by himself, and are of the same size with the originals. One is cut on a beam, running from the north-east corner of the steeple to the school in church of Ashford, Kent, and expresses the date 1292, and the other is cut in a house at Cambridge, called the Half-Moon, near Magdalen College, and denotes the year 1332. The figures of both are very rude, agreeable to those times, being the oldest I have yet met with, except those at Helmdon." Hasted is of opinion that the figures represent a much later date, though one anterior to the renovation of the Church by Sir John Fogge. But Thomas Wright, Esq., F.S.A., in a paper on the "Antiquity of Dates expressed in Arabic Numerals," in Vol II of the Journal of the British Archæological Association, appears to prove, pretty conclusively, that 1592 is the true reading.

In the North Transept a complete set of Brasses once existed, representing Thomas Fogge, Esq.,

in full armour, and Eleanor, his wife, with two children, and four shields of arms, viz., Fogge, Fogge impaling Browne, Woodville and Fogge impaling Haute, and Browne quarterly with Fitzalan. From the lips of the two principal figures issued the legend "Pater de cœlis, Deus, miserere nobis" —"Spiritus Sancta, Deus, miserere nobis," while the following inscription was placed beneath "Here under this stone lyeth the bodyes of Thoms Fogg, Esquyer, lately Sergeant Porter unto the most famous princes Kings Henry the VII and the VIII and Eleanr his wyf. The whiche Thomas deceased the xvi day of August ye year of our Lord McVc XII and Elinor deceased the day of the year of or Lord Mc Vc on whose soules I H V have mcy." He was the son of Sir John Fogge, the renovator of the church, by his second wife, Alice Haute. His wife was a daughter of Sir Robert Browne, and re-marrying Sir Wm. Kempe, of Ollantigh, was doubtless buried with him at Wye, which explains why the date of her death above was never filled up. Both figures are missing, but the children, and the legends with the inscription, remain.

In this—the north—transept was formerly, writes Mr. Smith, "a representation of Sir John Fogge,

in the coloured glass of a memorial window. He is kneeling at his devotions, in full armour, covered by a tabard of his arms, Fogge quarterly with Valoignes. Before him lies an open missal upon a table covered by a cloth diapered with roses. At the side is the representation of a Church, the badge of a builder or founder. This window was probably executed in the later years of Edward IV."

Weever, speaking of this church, says "Here are many goodly portraitures in the windows." In the great west window was the figure of Edward III. Probably in other windows were Richard Horne, Sir John Peché, Roger Manstone, Guildeford, the Black Prince, Richard Duke of Gloucester afterwards Richard III, Lord Hastings, Sir William Haute, Lord Scales, Richard Earl Rivers, and Jacquetta Duchess of Bedford—all in coat-armour, excepting, of course, the last. These portraitures had all disappeared in 1712.

Until the alterations in 1861, the great west window contained some fragments of stained glass which have since been preserved at the College. The two squares so preserved are evidently fac-similes. The more perfect I have been able to put together. It is a head surrounded by a nimbus.

Hasted says that "in the south window of the

cross isle of this church was once the figure of a Valoignes, habited in his surcoat of arms *argent*, three Pales wavy *gules*, with his spurs on, kneeling at an altar, and opposite to him, in the same attitude, two women, in their surcoats of arms likewise, on the first those of Haute, on the second, Fogge." On the same authority we learn that Sir John Goldstone, parson of Ivychurch, by his will, proved in 1503, desired to be buried in the choir of this church, and devised sundry costly ornaments and vestments for the use of it, and to him probably belongs the fragment of a "brass," representing the head and shoulders of an ecclesiastic, now lying in the parish chest.

The Rood Staircase still remains in the south transept, but the screen is gone, with the exception of some fragments of carving to be seen on the pews under the tower.

William de Sodington, rector of this church, had licence, 1343, to found a perpetual chantry in the chapel of St. Mary in this church, which he endowed with lands lying in this parish, Kennington, Willesborough, and Charing. It was suppressed in the first year of Edward VI.

The visitor will observe several tablets commemorating the Norwoods, Whitfelds, Husseys,

Jemmetts—families of long standing in the town. When Warren wrote, in 1712, the following inscriptions, among others, were to be found in the church, and some of them, doubtless, are yet in existence, though covered by the pewing:—

* “Nobilis hic Miles Stephanus Valans tumulatur
Cujus nunc anima vestris precibus capiatur.”

“Here is buried the noble knight Stephen Valans, whose soul should now enjoy the benefit of your prayers.” As neither date nor armorial bearings then remained on the stone, which almost adjoined the Countess of Atholl’s, we can only conjecture the owner. Stephen de Valoyns was a Knight of the Shire, 1373, and is probably the person intended, but there was also a Sir Stephen de Valence, whose daughter and heir was the wife of Sir Thomas Fogge, who died in 1407.

“Here lieth the body of the faithful servant of Christ, late painfull and loving Pastor of this congregation, Mr. James Wallis, who departed this life, Nov. 30, 1622, being of age 55 years. And Mr. Henry Wallis, son of Mr. John and Joanna Wallis, who lived a godly, prudent, just, and usefull man, and dyed much lamented, Sept. 3, 1666, aged 46 years, is here interred in his father’s grave.”

"Here lyeth buried Mary Knatchbull, daughter to Mr. Richard Knatchbull, Esquire, who deceased in ye 25 yeare of her age, A.D. 1643."

"Here lyeth ye Body of Martha Lake, widdow of John Lake, late of Borden, who dyed June ye 26th, 1680, aged 59 years.

"Quæ Pia, Quæ Prudens, Quæ Provida, Pulchra fuisti
Uxor amans, nato Martha, Maria Deo."

"To ye memory of John Nower, of Ashford, Gent., who when he lived was ye ornament of that Town, now ye Sorrow. Hee had by Mary his wife Three sons and one daughter, married to Edward Master, Esq. He dyed Aug. 26, 1667, in ye 47th yeare of his age. His sorrowfull widow put this as a memorial to them y^t come after."

"George Toke, Gent, dyed May 20, 1712, aged 35, and is here interred. He left issue by his wife Elizabeth 2 sons and 3 daughters."

[He was nephew to Sir Nicolas Toke, Kt.]

"Here lye ye Bodies of Jane, ye wife of James Walter, sometime Practitioner of Phisick in this Towne, a Gentlewoman lyneallie descended of a very auntient stock and ffamilie called Harlackenden. And of Elizabeth, ye wife of James May, Gent. Both of them were barren and brought forth noe children naturallie. But brought forth many

spirituallie unto Christ. The said Eliza. dyed ye
13th of December, 1622, after shee had lived with
her Husband 30 yeres, 2 months, and 15 days,
beinge aged 53 yeres, one month and ffive dayes.

Ja : May Piæ et dilectissimæ Uxori

O sweete companion of my youth and middle age likewise,
Yea and of oulde age creepinge on as yeres they did arise,
Untill yt God by his decree before thou erst wast made
Did to Himselfe thy soule upp take from Corps wch long did
fade.

Thou hadst to Christ a Godlie life, His Truth thou didst hold
fast,

Now then with Christ in heaven thou art, in joyes wch aye shall
last.

My soule doth long full sore to goe into that joye and blisse,
Ffor why? Through Christ my Saviour of life I shall not misse."

There is also a memorial for Henry Dering,
Gent., of Shelve, who died in 1752, and Hester,
his wife.

The Font is of stone, and on four sides of the
octagon had a Coat of Arms, of which that of the
Fogges alone remains.

Two old chests stand near the Chancel door—
one of them is ornamented with linen-pattern
panelling.

On the exterior of the church, under the great
east window, is a mutilated figure of the Virgin,

and above the western door are the arms of Sir John Fogge, and of Archbishop Sumner.

The church of Ashford was formerly part of the possessions of Horton Priory, but it belonged in the time of Edward III. to the Priory of Leeds; and at the Dissolution under Henry VIII. passed, with the advowson of the vicarage, into the hands of the Crown. It appears by the King's Bailiff's accounts at the Augtn. office, from the 31st to the 32nd year of Henry VIII., that this rectory, with its houses, lands, and appurtenances, and the tythes of corn and hay, with other profits belonging to it, (the advowson of the vicarage, and all woods and underwoods growing on the same excepted and reserved) was then in the tenure of Thomas Moyle, for 50 years, at the yearly rent of £12. In 1541 the King settled both rectory and vicarage on the Dean and Chapter of Rochester. On the abolition of Deans and Chapters under the Commonwealth this parsonage was surveyed in 1649, by order of the State, for the purpose of sale, when it was returned that it consisted of the tythes, a barn, and 24 acres of land, the whole of the improved rent of £72 per ann., let on lease to Francis Finch, for 21 years from 1640, at £12, the lessee

being bound to repair the chancel of the church. The Dean and Chapter of Rochester have been, since the Restoration, the Impropriators of the rectory, and patrons of the vicarage. The rectorial tithes (leased to Admiral Marsham and Captain Styles) have been commuted at £218, and the vicarial at £478. Eleven acres of glebe belong to the vicarage and twenty-six to the rectory.

This vicarage is valued in the King's books at £48 4s. 2d., and the yearly tenths at £1 16s. 5d. In 1640 it was valued at £100. Communicants, 630. In 1649 it was valued at only £50.

VICARS OF ASHFORD.

1. Solomon Russell, in 1383. He is mentioned as such in a deed of that date, and in another of 1370 as rector of Goudhurst.

2. Thomas Wilmote, in 1467. He was appointed first master of the College, and is mentioned in the deed of confirmation to it, 1481. He died in 1493, and willed to be buried in St. Nicholas chapel in this church.

3. William Sutton, D.D., 1493. Died 1496.

4. Hugh Hope, in 1503.

5. Richard Parkhurst, in 1535. Mentioned hereafter in the account of the College.

6. John Poynet, D.D. He was born in Kent, and finished his education at Queen's College, Cambridge. He is said to have been a man of learning, skilled in languages, and an excellent mathematician. "He presented," says Fuller, "Henry VIII. with a horologium, which I might

English, dial, clock, or watch, observing the shadow of the sun, and therein showing not only the hours, but dayes of the month, change of the moon, ebbing and flowing of the sea." By Archbishop Cranmer he was frequently consulted on religious subjects. In 1550, chiefly in consequence of his great ability as a preacher, he was consecrated Bishop of Rochester, at the early age of 35. About the time of his promotion an Order of Council was issued that no Bishop should for the future hold any other benefice "in commendam," but he was excepted from the order in consequence of his having no episcopal palace, and received a licence to hold the vicarage of Ashford with his bishopric, as well as a prebend in Canterbury Cathedral, and the rectories of Towyn, in Merionethshire, and St. Michael's, Crooked-lane, London. Poynt was translated to Winchester in 1551, when he resigned this living. On the accession of Mary he quitted England, and died at Strasburgh, in 1558. Shortly before his death he published a work, reprinted in 1642, and entitled "A short Treatise of Politique Power and the true obedience which subjects owe to Kings and other civil governors, being an answer to seven questions," which in the opinion of so competent a judge as

Mr. Hallam "is closely and vigorously written, and deserves in many parts a high place among the English prose of that age, though not entirely free from the usual fault—vulgar and ribaldrous invective. He determines all the questions stated on the title-page on principles adverse to royal power, and proceeds in a strain of some eloquence to extol the ancient tyrannicides, accounting the first nobility to have been those who had revenged and delivered the oppressed people out of the hands of their governors." Curious doctrine this from a sixteenth century Bishop.

7. John Fuller, 1565. Thomas Fuller, yeoman, of Ashford, patron for this turn.

8. Thomas Pett, 1571.

9. George Kersleke, 1579. Richard Rogers, Suffragan Bishop of Dover, presented for this turn by licence from the Dean and Chapter of Rochester.

10. Joseph Minge, B.A., 1581. He was one of the Puritan clergy who refused to subscribe to Archbishop Whitgift's articles in 1583.

11. John Holland, B.A., 1584.

12. Thomas Poulter, M.A., 1594.

13. John Wallis, 1602.

14. Edmund Hayes, M.A., 1622.

15. John Maccuby, M.A., 1638. In his time

there were great confusions in Church and State, and being a Royalist he was ejected.

16. Joseph Boden, 1643. A Presbyterian. "He set up the first letters of his own and his wife's name together with the date of the year when it was done, I.K.B., 1644. This is still remaining under the great window of the College."—Warren.

17. Nicholas Prigg. Also a Presbyterian, or Independent, and ejected in 1662. A nonconformist writer states that he was a man of eminent talents, and celebrated as a preacher. Having married a Mrs. Scott, with her property he purchased an estate, on which they lived after his ejection. He became melancholy so as not to be able to preach, but he improved in his state of mind, and died in comfort. His admirers erected a meeting house in St. John's Lane, and the congregation now attending the Congregational chapel claim to be their representatives.

18. Richard Whitlock, L.L.B., 1662. This Mr. Whitlock was a man of wit and learning and a strenuous upholder of church principles. "I have heard," says Warren, "that there were unhappy differences between him and his parishioners, and indeed several of those sentences which he wrote upon the glass-windows in the College do plainly

enough intimate as much. There are other sentences that do not so much look that way, but seem designed as hints to the reader to be retained in mind on the common occasions of life."

19. Thomas Rysden, M.A., 1667. "He was minister in Bread Street, London, and burnt out of his habitation by the great fire." It is believed that he is the same person who was the early friend of the renowned Jeremy Taylor, and the means (in consequence of an invitation he gave him to preach for him at St. Paul's) of introducing the future Bishop to the notice of Laud.

20. Samuel Warren, B.A., 1673. He was the son of the Rev. John Warren, afterwards of Hemel Hempstead, and born at Chipping Camden, in 1637. Having entered as a commoner at Trinity College, Oxford, and subsequently removed to St. Alban's Hall, he took the degree of B.A., and in 1662 was admitted into holy orders by Dr. Skinner, Bishop of Oxford. His first preferment was at Preston, near Brighton. Through the interest of his old friend Archbishop Lamplugh, then Dean of Rochester, he was presented in 1673 to the vicarage of Ashford. In 1683, Archbishop Sancroft, unasked, appointed him to the rectory of Blackmanstone, in Romney Marsh. He married

Sarah, youngest daughter of the Rev. John Stafford, rector of Lurgershall, in Sussex. She died in childbirth, 20 Sep., 1687, aged 40. Mr. Warren, who (if his epitaph be not more than commonly mendacious) must have been a very worthy character, died 16 March, 1721, aged 83, having been vicar 48 years, and is buried in the chancel, where a slab, bearing the arms of Warren impaling Stafford, and a long inscription in Latin, still remains to his memory.

21. John Clough, M.A., 1721. Also rector of Monk's Horton.

22. Charles Coldcall, M.A., 1765, and canon of Rochester. He resigned this vicarage for that of Aylesford, and Aylesford in 1782 for the rectory of Kingsdown, near Wrotham, holding also the vicarage of Ashburnham, in Sussex.

23. James Andrew, D.D., 1765. A canon of Rochester. He died March, 1791, and was buried in the south transept of this church, having, in 1774, resigned this living to his son-in-law and nephew—

24. James Bond, M.A., 1774. He was also perpetual curate of Bilsington, and dying at the age of 77, in 1826, was buried in this church.

25. Thomas Wood, 1826. He was of northern

extraction, and having been tutor to the Earl of Romney, obtained this benefice through Canon Marsham. Mr. Wood was much respected for the kindness of his heart and suavity of his manners. He was buried at the entrance to the chancel.

26. John Price Alcock, M.A., 1847. Of St. John's College, Cambridge—successively curate of Otford, minor canon of Rochester, and vicar of Strood. Rural dean of East Charing, 1848. A six-preacher in Canterbury Cathedral, 1858. Hon. canon of Canterbury, 1866.

THE COLLEGE.

THE College, now the vicarage house, stands on the south-east side of the churchyard.

Sir John Fogge, of Repton, the munificent benefactor to the church, founded a college at Ashford, in the reign of Edward IV., 1460-1483. It consisted of a master (the vicar for the time being), two chaplains, and two secular clerks, who were to celebrate divine service in the church, for the welfare of the King, George Archbishop of York, Sir John Fogge, and Alice his wife, during their lives, and after their death for the benefit of their souls, and of those of certain of the King's subjects, belonging to the county of Kent, slain in defence of his title at the battles of Northampton, St. Albans, and Shirborne. Sir John obtained from the King sufficient lands in Kent, Essex, and Sussex, for the support of his establishment, and bestowed upon it books, jewels, and other orna-

ments, all of which Edward confirmed, in 1467, to Thomas Wilmote, vicar of Ashford, and his successors, in pure and perpetual alms for the purposes above mentioned. The death of the King, however, and the misfortunes of the founder in the succeeding reign, prevented the completion of the design: and the college appears to have been dissolved in the time of Henry VII., or Henry VIII.

The college itself was of "black and white," and formerly occupied three sides of a quadrangle, with a gateway and porter's lodge leading to the churchyard. What is now the kitchen was the hall. It has a handsome chimney-piece of stone, and was cieled with oak or chesnut, the windows being filled with branches of trees and figures of birds and beasts, in painted glass. The large window looking into the court contained seven coats of arms, viz., those of the Royal Family, Criolls, Scotts, Fogge impaling Hawte, Cardinal Pole, and two that could not be identified, most of which remained until about fifty years ago.

According to Warren's account, the parlour, situated in the wing now taken down, had a large quantity of painted glass of an interesting

character. In the east window were roses, pomegranates, and branches—the badges of Queen Mary, who while Princess used a red and white rose and a pomegranate, knit together, to show her descent from the Houses of York, Lancaster, and Spain. But the most noticeable feature in this window was eight coats of arms painted in a line:—

1. Fogge. *Argent*, on a fess between three annulets *sable*, as many mullets of the first pierced with this inscription, “Jhoes Fogge Senior, Miles.”

2. Scott. *Argent*, three Catherine wheels *sable*, within a bordure ingrailed *gules*, “Syr Wyliam Scott.”

3. Poynings. Quarterly, first and fourth, Barry of six *or* and *vert*, over all a bend *gules*: second, *gules*, three lioncels passant, guardant, langued, in pale, *argent*: over all a bend *azure*: third, *or*, three piles meeting in base, *azure*. “Syr Edward Ponynge.”

4. Royal Arms. Insigned with the crown and supported by the dragon and greyhound. Quarterly, first and fourth, Jupiter, three fleurs de lis, *sol*: second and third, Mars, three lions passant, guardant, in pale, *sol*.

5. Archbishop Warham. The See of Canterbury, Jupiter, a staff in pale *sol*, and thereupon a cross patee, Luna, surmounted with a pale of the last, charged with three like crosses Saturn, fringed as the second, impaling Warham, *gules*, a fess *or*, between a goat's head in chief, and three escallops in base, *argent*. Under it, "Wilhelms Waram Cantuaris Archipiscopus," and over it, "Auxilium meum a Domino."

6. Dr. White, confessor to Sir John Fogge. *Argent*, a chevron *gules*, differenced with a trefoil slipt *or*, between three boars' heads coupéd of the second, armed of the third. "Jhoes Whyte, Sacre theologie doctor."

7. Darrell. *Azure*, a lion rampant *or*, crowned *argent* (quære) charged on the shoulder with a trefoil slipt of the third. "Syr Jamys darell."

8. Engham. *Argent*, a lion passant, langued, *gules*. The other part of the coat broken and gone when Warren wrote. "Jhoes Engham armiger."

In the south window of the same parlour, looking into the court, were the figures of our Saviour and the twelve Apostles. "But this was broken all to pieces in the times of the great rebellion in King Charles' reign, when some people

pretended a horrible dread of superstition, but were not afraid of rebellion and even regicide." This room was wainscotted, and had the letters R.P. carved on one of the beams.

On the wall of the middle chamber, that, I suppose, over the hall, or present kitchen, were painted two coats of arms:—

1. *Gules*. Two swords *argent*, in saltire, points upwards; impaling *gules*, three wheat-sheaves *argent*, both within a bordure ingrailed *sable*.

2. The Arms of the See of Canterbury impaling *gules*, three wheat-sheaves *argent* and insigned with a Cardinal's Hat. "This I suppose was Cardinal Kemp's and I believe the wheat-sheaves in this as well as the other escutcheon were some time or other whited over by some unskilful person that would be mending what he thought amiss."

The window of the same room, which looked towards the garden, contained a Rebus in painted glass. On the top of a hill, in a park 5 or 6 inches wide, was the letter R, while lower down among some trees was a dog running at a stag, who stood at bay under the pales. On the outside under the park gate were the letters H.V.R.S.T. Round the park on a circle was the motto "Veritas liberabit."

Richard Parkhurst, whose, of course, was the above device, was certainly master of the College in 1541, in which year Alice, widow of William Lovelace, Esq., of Bethersden, bequeathed "to the Right Worshippfull Maister Parkhurst, Maister of the College at Ashford, 6 henns, a capon and a cokk." He was also Vicar, like his predecessors. In the foundation charter he was nominated to be the first Canon of the fourth Prebend in Canterbury Cathedral, to which he was installed in 1542. He died in 1558.

Nor was this all the treasure of ornamental glass possessed in old time by the college. In the window looking towards Kingsnorth in the great south chamber was a white rose, surrounded by the motto "*Dieu et mon droit*," (while 19 roses of the same colour adorned the cieling) and four coats of arms:—1. Royal Arms. 2. Abp. Warham. 3. Magdalen College, Oxford, with garter and motto; and, 4, a coat, thus described by Warren: "Quarterly. The first grand quarter is quarterly, 1st and 4th *azure*, three fleurs de lis *vert*; 2nd and 3rd *gules*, three lions passant, guardant, in pale. The second grand quarter is *or*, a cross *gules*. The third grand quarter is as the second. The fourth grand quarter *azure*, three bars *vert*, on the two

first a plate, four pallets in the chief part of the escutcheon of the second, (quære) round all 'Dieu et mon droit.' " "There is also," he adds, "under the third escutcheon in the hall, a small coat of arms, not quite an inch either in breadth or length, on the breast of a bird with her wings expanded, viz., the field—a chevron ingrailed between three pellets *sable*."

About 90 years ago, the college having become dilapidated, the then vicar took down the north wing and the porter's lodge, and modernised the south wing, in which the principal rooms are now situated. Much of the old woodwork was, however, preserved—the original oak-screen of the hall still remaining and the present dining-room being ornamented with the linen-pattern panelling placed probably in the parlour already referred to about the reign of Henry VIII. or Mary. This room also contains the letters R.P. connected by a knot and a rose carved in oak.

In the garden is an avenue of limes (which forms in summer a short but delightful walk) and a remarkably fine acacia, as well as some good specimens of the ilex or evergreen oak.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

THE Grammar School lies on the north-west side of the churchyard. It was founded in 1635, by the eminent scholar and critic, Sir Norton Knatchbull, Bart., of Mersham Hatch, in accordance with the wishes of his uncle and predecessor of the same name, and endowed with the then adequate stipend of £30 per annum payable from lands in Newchurch. The appointment of the master, who must always be a master of arts at the least, is vested in the family. The owner of Mersham Hatch, the Commissary having ordinary jurisdiction in the Parish of Ashford, the Vicar of Ashford, the Rector of Aldington, the Rector of Mersham, and the Rector of Great Chart, for the time being, are the visitors. They may visit annually or oftener as there is occasion. If the master be notoriously faulty, they are gently to admonish him, and if on three several admonitions he does not amend, the patron is to displace him

and nominate a successor. It is specified among other regulations for the government of the school, that that grammar is to be used which is allowed by the King's Majesty, that prayers selected from the liturgy are to be read daily, that the scholars are to be weekly instructed in the church catechism, and to attend divine service in the parish church on Sundays and holy days, and there to behave quietly and attentively. "The school room," says Warren, "is 42 feet in length and 20 feet 5 inches in breadth. The building is of brick. It has a chimney for fire for the scholars, and a convenient study joyning to the school for the master, and a little yard on the south side, which is now a garden. On ye door entering into ye school is this date A.D. 1636. On the outside of ye school is this date, 1635, in which year the school was built. On ye top of ye school is a turret with a bell in it: on ye turret is this date, 1681: on ye top of ye turret a fane or weathercock with the Knatchbull Arms painted on it. In the first master's time the school was wainscotted. On the portal at ye entrance into ye school are these letters, B.P. E.P. At ye upper end of ye school over the master's seat are the arms of the Knatchbulls—*Azure*, three cross crosslets fitchee between

two bendlets *or*. About the year 1711 the old forms and tables which were formerly made use of by the scholars were converted into desks and seats on all sides of the school. On the wall at the upper end of the school are these sentences in Greek :

‘ Make God the Beginning and the End of All,
Do this and thou shalt blessed be.’

On ye outside of ye school near ye top towards ye east are these words :

‘ Benefactorum Recordatio Jucundissima est.’ ”

In 1715 a school library was established, at the suggestion of Mr. Grove, Fellow of St. John’s and Registrar of the University of Cambridge, but the books have long since disappeared.

During the mastership of Mr. Barrett certain gentlemen of the town formed a company for the purchase of the house in the High Street in which the master now resides. Eight shares out of fifteen were the property of Mr. Barrett, and given by him on his first resignation to the master for the time being, and the owners of the remaining seven and their heirs having suffered their interest to lapse, the whole is now practically the master’s freehold.

Under Mr. Barrett this school enjoyed a great

reputation, and he was so fortunate, during his tenure of office, as to amass considerable property, which descended, through his only child, to the Curteis family.

The following is a list of the masters of the Grammar School:

1. Rev. Baptist Pigott, M.A. He was son of Baptist Pigott, of Dartford, and married, first, the daughter of Henry Stacy, gent., of Ash, and widow of Rev. George Symons, by whom he had two sons, Baptist and Gervase, and two daughters, Helen and Mary. He married, secondly, Jane, daughter of John Spencer, Esq., of Faversham, and by her had two sons, Spencer and Edward, and four daughters, Frances, Elizabeth, Jane, and Anna. Having been master upwards of 20 years he died, aged 70, in 1657, and was buried in the south transept of this church. The inscription on his grave-stone intimates that the town was "ungrateful" for his labours.

2. Rev. Simon Howe, M.A., 1657. He was son of Mr. Simon Howe, of Petersham, in Surrey, and married, in the year he came to Ashford, Mary, daughter of Mr. Thomas Wilson, of Maidstone—probably the famous Puritan incumbent of Otham.

Mr. Howe seems to have been Rector of Sevington, which he resigned in 1668.

3. Rev. Strangford Viol, M.A. He married first, in 1674, Mary Carter, of Ashford, a member of the family now seated at Kennington Hall; and secondly, in 1685, Jane, daughter of Richard Fogge, Esq., of Dane Court, the representative of Sir John Fogge, of Repton, by whom he left a daughter, Jane, married to Edward Jacob, Esq., of Canterbury. He resigned 1679, became vicar of Upminster, Essex, and was buried at Crundall.

4. John Drake, M.A. He was born at Woodstock, and educated at All Souls' College, Oxford, and at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Having been master 33 years, he died at Charing, on Trinity Sunday, June 15th, 1712, "was brought to Ashford on the Tuesday following, and, being attended by his scholars and many others, was buried in this church," aged about 60.

5. Richard Bate, M.A. The only son of the Rev. Stephen Bate, rector of Horsemonden. He was educated at Westminster school, from which he proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge, and afterwards became Fellow of Peter-house. He died in 1749.

6. Rev. Stephen Barrett, M.A., 1749-1764.

7. William Hodson, M.A., 1764-1766.

8. Rev. Stephen Barrett, M.A., 1766, for the second time. He resigned in 1773, on being presented to the rectory of Hothfield. His only daughter, Mary, married Jeremiah Curteis, Esq., of Windmill Hill, M.P. for Sussex.

9. Rev. Charles Stoddart, M.A. He was also rector of Newchurch, and dying in 1812 was buried in this church. His daughters, the Misses Stoddart, one of whom survives, deserve to be remembered for the great kindness with which during a long period they attended to the wants of the poor of Ashford.

10. Rev. John Nance, D.D. He was the son of the Rev. William Nance, rector of Great Chart, by a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Andrew, canon of Rochester and vicar of Ashford, and married his cousin, the daughter of the Rev. James Bond. Dr. Nance was many years curate of Ashford, and afterwards rector of Old Romney, where he died in 1853, having resigned the mastership in 1832. He published several sermons.

11. Ephraim Hemmings Snoad, M.A. He was of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and, having been master 24 years, died in 1856, and was buried at Brenzett.

12. Rev. Robert Henry Wright, M.A. He was of Trinity College, Cambridge—was two years curate of Ashford, and the author of a work on Tri-linear Co-ordinates and of other books on mathematical subjects, which commanded a considerable sale. Mr. Wright died 18th Sept., 1867, aged 58. His funeral, which took place at the Cemetery, was attended by several of the local clergy anxious to testify their respect for a kind-hearted and most obliging neighbour.

13. Francis A. Dewe, M.A., of Caius College, Cambridge, son of Rev. Samuel Dewe, rector of Kingsdown, near Wrotham.

THE REGISTERS.

THE Ashford Registers begin with the year 1570, and are in a good state of preservation. A few extracts from them are subjoined, to which I have prefixed some entries made by Mr. Warren rather for the information of his successors than from their connection with the legitimate objects of the Register.

“Memorandum. That in the year 1674 and 1675 the wood commonly called Lodge-wood, lying in this parish of Ashford, belonging to the Earl of Thanet, was felled, and tithe was paid to me, Samuel Warren, then vicar. There was a tryall about it at Maidstone assizes, in the year 1677, in Lent.”

“Memorandum. That last winter, being in the year 1680, the wood commonly called Balds-wood, lying in this parish of Ashford, belonging to the Earl of Thanet, was felled, and tithe was paid in

kind, viz., 12 cord of wood, to me Samuel Warren, vicar. Witness my hand, in the presence of John Brett, Robertt Greenhill, churchwardens, James Wise, John Ireland, overseers.

BURIALS.

1573. November 11. Edward ffogge, Esquyre, was buried.

1581. Aprill 16. Katherine, the daughter of the Reverend Father in God, Richard, B. Suffragane of Dover, was buried.*

1590. Aprill 17. John Engham, gentleman, buried.

1591. June 30. Thomas Smith, Esquyer, Lord of this Towne of Ashford, was buried.

1593. June 21. Alice Smith, the widowe of Thomas Smith, Lord of this towne, decessed at London, and buried here.

1597. May 3. John Smythe, the son of John Smith, Esquire, was buried.

1601-2. Feb. 27. Thomas Pulter, Vicar and Preacher of the woord of God, buried.

1608-9. Jan. 12. Sir John Smyth, Knight, and Lord of the Mannor of Eshfoord, buried.

* Richard Rogers, D.D., Archdeacon of St. Asaph, was in 1570 consecrated Bishop of Dover, and acted as Suffragan to Archbishops Parker, Grindal, and Whitgift. He was afterwards Dean of Canterbury, and, dying in 1597, was the last Suffragan Bishop of Dover.

1612. Julie 15. Marie, the daughter of Thomas Engham, Gent., buried.

1616-17. Jan. 1. Henry Engham, Gent., was buried.

1623. Aprill 24. James Mascall, Gent., buried.

1625. Aprill 20. Thomas Horsey, junior, and Thomas, his sonne, buried, de peste, suposed the originall. 86 persons are entered as having died of the plague during this summer, in addition to the ordinary mortality.

1627. Nov. 22. Mrs. Dorathie, the daughter of Sir Thomas Smith, buried.

1628. July 25. Sr. Richard Smith, Knight, of London, buried.

1632. Nov. 20. Mr. John Lepeena buried.

1635. July 15. Thomas Smith, Knight of the Bath, Lord Viscount Strangford, buried.

1638. Aprill 3. Mr. John Hawtrey, Gent., Bayliffe of the towne.

1643-4. Jan. 19. Mrs. Sarah Lupine.

1662. Aprill 17. John, the sonne of Mster. Isaac Rutton.

1663. June 20. Maddam Strangford.

Dec. 11. Annis Reading, 106.

1663-4. Jan. 14. Mr. Viall's man.

1664. Dec. 14. Mr. Jacob's Father.

1664-5. Jan. 9. Anne, y^e daughter of Isaac and Margaret Rutton, of Hithe.

1665. March 15. The Lord Strangford's son.

1674. Aug. 26. Philip, son of Philip, Viscount Lord Strangford.

1678. July 12. Samuel Wood, inne keeper at the Saracen's Head.

1679. Nov. 7. John Stringer, of Bybrooke, gent.

1680. Oct. 28. Mary, daughter of Philip, Viscount Lord Strangford.

1680-1. Jan. 27. Anne, daughter of Anthony Irby, Esquire, and Mary his wife.

1681. July 8. Alice Pelham, widow ; reputed 98 years of age.

1681. Nov. 24. John, son of Philip, Viscount Lord Strangford.

1682. Dec. 27. Mary Barker, widow ; neer a 100 years old.

1686. April 9. Mary Irby, widow of Anthony Irby, Esqre.

1695-6. Jan. 31. Thomas, son of Viscount Lord Strangford.

1703. Nov. 18. George, eldest son to Lord Viscount Strangford.

1704. Dec. 13. Panton, son of George Toke.

1705-6. March 13. Nicolas, son of George Toke.

1705. April 8. Mary Lownds, widow, 80 years old and a quarter. She was born on a Christmas-day, dyed on a Good Friday, buried on Easter-day. Remarkable.

1708. August 8. Philip, Lord Viscount Strangford.

1712. May 23. George Toke, a surgeon.

1713. July 12. Mary Sturton, widow, aged 85 ; used no spectacles.

1720. April 4. Captain Wilfred Hart.

1722-3. Feb. 20. Martha Cowell was put into ye ground without any service performed, at ye request of her husband.

1726. Aug. 21. Dorothy Browne, 102 years of age.

1730. Oct. 23. Mrs. Sarah Rutton.

1739. Dec. 4. William Whitfeld, senr.

1740. May 1. Rev. Peter Norwood, M.A.

1741. Sep. 13. Mr. Matthias Rutton.

1742. Nov. 17. Anthony Irby, gent.

1752. Jan. 19. Mr. Henry Dering.

1753. Jan. 16. Mrs. Judith Rutton.

1776. April 16. Rev. Mr. Edward Young.

1779. July 10. Thomas Hussey.

1834. July 19. Hon. Lionel Sydney Smythe.

1855. June 4. Rt. Hon. Percy Clinton Sydney Viscount Strangford.

MARRIAGES.

1624. Oct. 21. Thomas Shelgrave, of Becknam, in Kent, Esquier, and Anne Colpepper, daughter of Sir Alexander Colpepper, married by vertue of a licence granted from Cant.

1659. Aug. 9. The marriage between Mr. Julius Deeds, of Newington, and Mrs. Anne Bate, was solemnized in Ashford, upon certificate of the intended marriage, according to the act, by me, Tho. Osmonton, rector of Ivychurch.

1734. June 4. Thomas Johnson (aged 87) and Mary Dubbin (aged 67), both of this parish.

BAPTISMS.

1581. Dec. 17. John, the son of Joseph Mynge, preacher of the word at Ashford, and minister there, was bapt.

1596. Oct. 12. Robert Edolph, the sonne of John Edolphe, gentilman.

1598-9. Jan. 21. Ann Hall, the daughter of Edward Hall, gentilman.

1601. Aug. 14. John Edolph, the sonne of John Edolph, gent.

1608. Oct. 13. Janne, the daughter of Thomas Edoulph, gent.

1625. June 14. John, the sonne of William Roper, gent.

1631-2. Jan. 1. Mildred, the daughter of Mr. John Deering, gent.

1643. July 11. Lydia, the daughter of Mr. Philip Chute, and Ann his wife.

1660. Aug. 28. William, the sonne of Mr. Julius and Anne Deedes, borne and bap. Sep. 9.

1663. Dec. 14. Rebecca, daughter of Julius and Anne Deedes, of Hide.

1711. April 17. Isaac, son of Matthias and Sarah Rutton.

1712. May 31. Henry Bigg, 68 years old.

1715. June 15. Matthias, son of Matthias and Sarah Rutton.

Under the date 1653 is the following memorandum :—

“According to the late Act of Parliament, entituled an Act touching the registering of Marriages, Births, and Burialls : This is to certify that Mr. Nicolas Prigg, being chosen by the inhabitants of the Towne of Ashford to bee their Registrer, was approved and sworne to the performance of that trust, on or about the 4th October, 1653.”

During the Commonwealth the entries of Banns

and Marriages were made after the fashion of the annexed specimen :—

1654. Aprill 9. The purpose of marriage between
16. Isaack Norton and Sarah Pelham,
23. both of this Parish, was published
April 9, and 16, and 23, none
excepting against it.

May 4. Isaack Norton, of Ashford, Taylour, sonne of Richard Norton, of Ashford, and Sarah Pelham, the daughter of Richard Pelham, of Smeeth, were married together in Ashford, by Justice Honywood, of Kingsnorth, the day and year aforesaid.—HENRY HONYWOOD.

On the passing of the Act, in the time of Charles II., prohibiting burials except in woollen, an elaborate certificate (of which the following is an example) that the terms of the Act had been complied with became necessary:—

“1678. Aug. 13. Mary Harris, Singlewoman, buried. That she was buried in woollen was testified as followeth. These are to certifie any whom it may concern that Mary Chowton, of Ashford, in the county of Kent, widow, and Anne Popjoy, wife of Edward Popjoy, of the same parish, in the county aforesaid, husbandman, did, this present 19th day of August, 1678, come

and appear before me Sir Norton Knatchbull, Knight and Baronett, in my house at Mersham Hatch, and did then and there before me take their severall oaths that Mary Harris, of Ashford aforesaid, in the said county, singlewoman, lately deceased, and interred, as they say, on the thirteenth day of this instant August, was not put in, wrapt, or wound up, or buried, in any shirt, shift, sheet, or shroud, made or mingled with flax, hemp, silk, hair, gold, or silver, or any other thing than what is made of sheep's wooll onely; or in any coffin lined or faced with any cloth, stuff, or other materiall, but sheep's wooll onely. In testimony whereof the parties above said have likewise hereunto put their hands and seales the day and year above mentioned.

“MARY CHOWTON,

“ANNE POPJOY,

“NORTON KNATCHBULL.”

On the fly-leaves of one or two of the older volumes of Registers, Mr. Warren has made the following interesting memoranda:—

“There fell a great deal of snow on April 22, being Good Friday, 167—hills, meadows, houses, all covered with snow: and on May-day following, and on the 4th May, fell much snow, that in some

places, where were drifts, it was above a yard deep and lay several days on the hills, which we could see several miles off, and all this time very cold weather, and so continued about 10 days, It was very wet and cold to the 5th of June."

"In the year 1683 there was a very hard frost, beginning a little before Christmas, and lasted 7 weeks. The frost went 3 foot in the ground, froze all rivers that mills could not grind, the sea about Hithe and Dover was frozen many miles into the sea. The Thames at London so frozen that they built streets upon it, and coaches went commonly upon it. The like frost has not been known in man's memory."

"On the 21st day of March, 1685, being Lord's day, the Steeple of Wye fell down about 11 of the clock in the forenoon; and presently after the minister and people were gone from church, and so nobody was hurt by the fall. Oh wonderful Providence!!"

"On Thursday, Sept. 8th, 1692, there was an earthquake all over England, and in some parts of France, Flanders, Holland, and Germany, all at the same time, at a little after two of the clock in the afternoon. It lasted about a minute or little more."

“On the 28th of July, 1703, being Wednesday, it began to rain between 6 and 7 in the morning and held till 2 o'clock in the afternoon pretty moderately, and then it began to rain exceeding hard, with very little intermission, until between 4 and 5 the next morning, which caused a great flood that carried away a great deal of hay out of the meadows down the river: a great loss to many people.”

“On Friday, and specially on Saturday morning, the 26 and 27 days of November, 1703, there were most terrible and dreadful storms of wind with which it pleased Almighty God to afflict the greatest part of this kingdom. Some of our ships of war and many other ships were destroyed and lost at sea, and great numbers of men serving on board the same perished. And many houses, barns, and other buildings, were either wholly thrown down and demolished, or very much damnified and defaced, and thereby several persons were killed, viz., the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Dr. Kidder, &c. And many stacks of corn and hay thrown down and scattered abroad, to the great damage and impoverishment of many others, especially the poorer sort. And great number of timber and other trees were torn up by the roots,

others broke short asunder in the middle ; some whole orchards rooted up, others much damnified. Philip Warham, of Wye, had 220 trees blown down in his orchard. A calamity of this sort so dreadful and astonishing that the like has not been seen or felt in the memory of any person living in the nation. Hereupon the Queen (Anne) appointed a general fast throughout the kingdom on Jan. 19, following."

PAROCHIAL ACCOUNTS.

THE following extracts from the Churchwardens' and other Parochial Account Books have been thought to possess sufficient interest for publication :—

1632. "At a vestry meeting, 15th January, 1632, it is agreed by a generall consent concerning the Lecture, that for the romber there should be six neighbour ministers spoken with, and that if any refused then another should be named in his stead at the next vestry meeting ; which sayd ministers are those whose names are here under-written :

"Mr. Taylor, of Hastingleigh ;

"Mr. Ely, of Charing ;

"Mr. Allen, of Elham ;

"Mr. Wood, of Hinckhill ;

"Mr. Richmond, of Wy ;

"Mr. Player, of Kennington ;

besides the Incumbent."

"Memorandum. At a vestry meeting, the second day of December, 1634, it was agreed concerning the collection for the Lecture on the Saturdays, it was agreed that John Roberts, the clerk of the parish, should goe to every man, and demand what their goodwill shalbe towards the mayntenance of the sayd lecture on the Saturday, and especially for the yeare that is past, and to have his authority from the minister and churchwardens, and to make his account to the minister and churchwardens when he shalbe required."

"1672. Item, given to Jane Smithson,	s. d.
of Dover, whose husband was then taken	
by the Turkes, and they required seaven-	
ty odd pounds for his ransom... ..	1 6

Item. Paid to Tho. Clarke for half	
one pint of wine, for Mr. Wilson to	
drinke before sermone*	6

July 12. Given unto Kathrin Bridg-	
man, a minister's widdow in distresse ...	1 6

* The entries relating to wine furnished to the various clergy before or after preaching afford a curious instance of the manner in which drinking was associated in old times with all English occupations, whether public or private, sacred or profane. The custom of supplying the Preacher with wine still survives in a modified form in the bottle of wine placed for the use of the officiating minister in the vestries of the chapels of some of the London companies.

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Oct. 30. For too certificats to cleere the poor inhabitants from paying hearth money	1	0	
Nov. 24. Item, for carriing of donge out of the churchyard	3	0	
Nov. 27. Paid George Sanders for giveing notice that none lay any more donge in the churchyard... ..			4
1673. Jan. 13. Item, given to widdow burd, shée being in povertie and oppressed by the chimney man*	2	0	
Nov. 10. Paid for a pint of sake, when Mr. Jematt preached	1	0	
Paid a messengar to intreat him to com†			4
Dec. 23. Gaue a gentell man, who had a wife an dather with him, who was undon by fire			6
1675. Payd to Richard Snoade for a fox-head	1	0	
Payd for a poulcatt and hedge hog's head			4

* i.e. The collector of the tax on chimneys.

† Mr. Jemmett, whose presence was so much desired, was Rector of Hinxhill.

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	£	s.	d.
Item. Given to Margaret Berry and Joane Mayney, whose husbands were in slavery			6
1679. Item, 27th July, paid for a bottle of Renish and a pint of sack when Mr. Viall preached	2	6	
Nov. 10. Gave a man that lost his estate in Lincolnsheir by flood	1	0	
1681. March 28. Paid one Francis Fowler, a distressed minister... ..	1	0	
Item, given the ringers on Queen Elizabeth's coronation day, beinge the 17th of November*... ..	1	0	6
1683. Item, paid Mr. Greene for bringing of the paper menconing the time of the Kings Maiesties touching for the evill	2	0	
1685. Item, for one sun dyall, and a new lock and two keys, as appears by bill	6	0	
1686. Item, given to a protestant that Mr. Warren brought to me†	1	0	

* This entry proves the hold which "Good Queen Bess" had gained on the affections of the people. She had already been dead 78 years, but the custom of ringing the bells on her Coronation Day was continued 50 years longer.

† These "Protestants" were the French Refugees driven over by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. As their ministers were not Episcopally ordained, it is remarkable that one of them was allowed to preach (as a subsequent entry shows he was) in Ashford church.

	£	s.	d.
For one velvett pulpett cloth, and bringing the same from London	9	11	1
For cullering the pulpett and 'funt	3	6	0
1687. Item, paid to Daniell Taylor and Parker of Westwell, for seven foxes caught in this parish	7	0	
Item, given unto a lame minister that preached	2	0	
Item, given him in lieu of wine	2	0	
Item, given to Mr. Warren, on Christ- mas day, thirtieth of January, and fifth of November, in lieu of wine, as he said was alowed him	3	0	
1688. Spent upon the ringers ringing upon the birth of the Prince of Wales*	6	0	
1689. Given Mr. Warren to welcom him from London†	1	0	
Paid to Mr. Warren, by order of the parish, towards the repairs of his house†	5	0	0
1691. July 27. Spent upon the ringers upon our hearing of our forces beating the Irish‡	3	0	

* The Prince of Wales, for whose birth the bells rang so merrily, was the unfortunate James Francis Edward commonly called The Old Pretender.

† These two entries seem to testify to the good understanding which prevailed between Mr. Warren and his parishioners.

‡ No doubt the Battle of the Boyne, fought July 1, 1691.

	£	s.	d.
Aug. 16. For a bottle of whine for the french minister's preaching	1	0	
1692. Spent on the ringers the day of rejoyceing when the candles were lighted*	14	0	
Given to a man whose tongue was cut out in Turkey	1	6	
1693. Given Mr. John Warren when he preached three bottles of syder ...	1	0	

April 10, 1694. At a Publick Meetinge of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Ashford, in the County of Kent. It was then agreed that no Churchwarden for the futur do expend out of the Church Rents any moneys for Ringing, Gaol Money, Bondfires, Relief to any poor Travellers, all vermine, and Communion Wine, or any other expenses whatsoever, other than what is expended or laid out on the Repairs of the Church, with the appurtenances, according to the the true intent and meaning of the donor or donors of the said Church Rents.

Accordingly in 1695 a Church "Sess" was levied from which these payments were made.

* This probably refers to an illumination after the naval victory of La Hogue.

	£	s.	d.
1700. Paid Mr. George Wade for painting the chancell	20	0	0
1710. Spent on the workmen to view the ground where the gallery was to be built according to order of court			6
Paid for the Branch, as by bill	16	18	0
Paid for two Silver Flaggons, weighing 104oz. 11d. at 6s. 6d. per oz.	33	19	3
1713. Paid Mr. Warren for a Salver and two plates		9	0
1715. Spent when the sentences were new done		1	6
Paid Mr. Atkins in part for timber and putting out and framing the Gallery	10	0	0
1719. Received for seats sold in the new Gallery	40	13	0
Spent about getting an order to erect the Gallery	10	7	6
1742. Paid the cryer for crying off throwing at cock in the churchyard			2
1744. Paid Mr. Charles Sloane, for designing, surveying, and drawing the several works for new pewing and paving the church... ..	10	0	0
1745. Paid for the Facultie to new pew the church... ..	5	19	10

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£ s. d.

1746. Paid William Bigg for repairing the Pinacles and gilding the Vanes 12 12 0

1771. Paid to John Honey for cutting the elder trees out of the pinacles of the steple ... 5 0

1777. Paid Thomas Shrimpton for four large copper vanes, five feet long, with strong cast iron bannisters, the vanes richly gilt in oyl, gold, &c. ... 42 0 0

1778. The remaining sum £41 2s. 3d. was this year paid to Edward Honiss for repairing the pinnacles of the church, £63 os. od. having been previously paid.

1668. January 28. Received then of Simon Gilberd of a brefe that was gathered for the fire of London, the some of seven pounds, seventene shilings, and ten pence.

Wittnes my hande,

THO. FFENNER, Cunstabell.

1674. March 22. Colected for this brefe consarning the grete lost by fire in the univarseti of Oxford the sum of four shilings to pence in our town of Ashford, by Tho. Jemett and Tho. Reve, Churchwardens.

1679. Sept. 9. Recd then of Mr. Jemmitt, of Ashford, the summe of Elleaven Shillings and Six

Pence, being so much collected on a breife for rebuilding Benenden Church.

I say rec^d by me,

JNO. HEARD.

Aprill y^e 30th, 1679. Ashford.

Received upon the breife for the rebuilding of St. Paul's Church, London, the summe of
0 11 0.

GEO. UPTON.

May 2, 1682. Received then for the Collection in the said parish on the breife for the distressed Protestants of ffrence the summe of £7 9s. 6d. by me.

HART HIRST.

These briefs were apparently issued without much discrimination and usually yielded a very trifling sum. There is a long list of them in one of the parish books. Those mentioned above are selected as relating to well-known subjects, but most of them refer to the losses of individuals by fire or flood.

REMARKABLE EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF ASHFORD.

THIS town was the scene in January, 1557, of one of those horrible tragedies then so common in England—the burning of two martyrs, during the Marian persecution, for their adherence to the reformed faith. Their names were N. Final and Matthew Bradbridge, both of Tenterden, and their martyrdom is thus referred to in the curious contemporary poem, the “Register” of Thomas Bryce, published in 1559 :—

“ When two at Ashforde with crueltie
For Christes cause to death were brent :
When not long after two at Wye
Suffered for Christe His Testament :
When wyly wolves put these to death
We wisht for our Elizabeth.”

Harris states that a terrible earthquake was felt here on May-day, 1580.

At the latter end of the summer of 1625 the plague raged dreadfully (as the Register testifies)

in this town and neighbourhood, insomuch that the Justices of the Peace, finding the inhabitants unable to relieve and support the sick who were poor and in necessity, taxed this and the neighbouring Hundreds for that purpose, according to the directions of the Privy Council, lest, as was said, the sick should be forced for the succour of their lives to break forth of the town to the great danger of the country.

We may here add that in 1591 was published in London a quarto pamphlet entitled "Sundrye Strange and Inhumaine Murthers lately committed. The first of a Father that hired a man to kill three of his children, neere to Ashford, in Kent; the second of Master Page, of Plymouth, murdered by the consent of his owne wife, with a strange discovery of sundrie other murthers."

In the month of May, 1856, the children belonging to the various schools in the town—having previously marched from Barrow Hill, attended by the clergy, dissenting ministers, and teachers—were regaled, to the number of several hundreds, with a substantial dinner in commemoration of the restoration of peace after the Crimean war. The tables were spread in the High Street, and the whole scene was of a very interesting character.

Nor was Ashford at all behind-hand on the occasion of the rejoicings for the marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princess Alexandra of Denmark, 10th March, 1863. The day commenced with divine service in the parish church, attended by all classes and denominations of the parishioners. In the afternoon a tea was provided in the assembly rooms for a large number of elderly persons, while the younger people amused themselves with athletic sports, and the evening was devoted to fireworks and an illumination.

The following remarkable facts will be interesting to the lovers of natural history. In the spring of 1866 a pair of blue titmice built their nest in a letter-box attached to a gate-post at the entrance to a residence at Barrow-hill, but the eggs were destroyed by boys putting stones into the box. In the same year, a pair of the same birds built their nest in a letter-box attached to the front door of one of the Star-villas, and reared eleven young ones. In the spring of the following year (1867) the same pair, as it was supposed, again built their nest in the letter box, and reared twelve young ones. They entered the box by a vertical slit in the door, apparently too narrow to admit even the smallest bird. During the period of incubation the sitting

bird allowed the box to be opened and examined, and the frequency and rapidity with which the pair flew in and out while feeding their young attracted the notice of the numerous passers-by to a circumstance perhaps unheard of in the history of British birds.

ASHFORD TOKENS.

As is well-known, it was customary with tradesmen, especially innkeepers, to issue in the time of Charles II. small copper coins for the convenience of their customers in the scarcity of the productions of the Royal Mint. Of these tokens, fifteen were issued at Ashford, of some of which a description, taken from the *Numismatic Chronicle*, of September, 1863, will be found below. Several specimens are in the possession of Mr. Brothers, of this town.

"James Bassett, in Ashford, 1669, his half-peny," bears the figure of St. George on horseback, in a tunic and encased in armour, with an immense scimitar in his uplifted right hand threatening destruction to the dragon under his horse's feet. Mr. Bassett was the host of the George, which has apparently undergone but slight alteration since his days.

The coin of "Francis Baylef, at the Pyd Bull,

in Ashford," has a curious little animal with large erect head and raised foot stamping as in anger—a favourite sign, doubtless, in a grazing and agricultural district, and intended as a representation of the far-famed Yorkshire breed of pied cattle.

On the "half-penny of James Chittenden, of Ashford, 1669," we find as a device a tankard between the letters J.M.C. The tankard, or pot, is said to have been of the form of a segment of a cone cut parallel to its base, from the delight of our ancestors in taking a toast in their ale; for this purpose the base was broad, so that the composure of the drinker, when near the end of his draught, might not be suddenly dissipated by the descent of the sop with a splash into his eyes and face.

The device, a malt-shovel, on the half-penny of "William Botting, of Ashford, 1669," points to his trade.

A chequered square and the letters T.A.R. appear on the farthing of "Thomas Redfeild, of Ashford, in Kent." His abode, the "Chequers" inn, stood on the north-east side of the church, but has been many years pulled down.

A piece bearing the initials T.F.S., and on the reverse "In Ashford, 1664," was the coin of

Thomas Flint. The Flints were a family of long-standing and good repute in the town. Mr. Thomas Flint, the issuer of the token, was a respectable tradesman who died 5th February, 1677, aged 70, having purchased the house now occupied by Messrs. Bugler and Hammond, which continued to be the home of the family until October, 1801, when it was sold by his descendant, Mr. Thomas Flint, on his removal to Canterbury. Brooke Place excepted, it may be doubted whether another house can be found in the town which has passed from father to son through five generations and been occupied by them continuously during 140 years. Since 1783, when it was new-fronted, the house in question has been one of the most conspicuous in the High Street. By marriage the Flints were connected with several families of position, viz., Pattensons, Blackmores, and Marshes. One of their relatives, Thomas Marsh, gent., a man of superior ability, and for many years the leading surgeon of the place, died at Ashford in 1749. It is recorded of him that he scrupulously devoted to the poor the whole of his professional gains on the Sunday. Benjamin F. Flint, Esq., of Margate, is, I believe, the present representative of this family.

REMARKABLE PERSONS CONNECTED WITH ASHFORD.

THE family of Osborne, from which the Duke of Leeds is descended, was of this town; Richard Osborne, Esq., of Ashford, being father of Sir Edward Osborne, Clothworker, who served the office of Lord Mayor of London in 1582—the Duke's direct ancestor.

King William III., in 1696, created Arnold Joost Van Keppel, Baron Ashford, of Ashford, in Kent, Viscount Bury, and Earl of Albemarle, whose representative now enjoys the titles.

Robert Glover, born in 1543, was the son of Thomas Glover, Gent., of this town. In 1571, he was appointed Somerset Herald, and in 1582 attended Lord Willoughby with the Order of the Garter to Frederick II. of Denmark, and in 1584 accompanied the Earl of Derby with that Order to Henry III., King of France. He was one of the most distinguished members of the College of Arms and appears to have been the leader in the

quarrel with Sir William Dethick, Garter King, which was terminated by the latter resigning his office. Glover assisted Camden in the Pedigrees for his *Britannica*, drew up the Visitations of 24 Counties, compiled M.S. Genealogies of the Nobility of the realm in Latin, and made a collection of Funeral Inscriptions in Kent, and a Catalogue of the Northern Gentry whose names ended in "son." He wrote "*De Nobilitate Politica vel Civili*" and a "Catalogue of Honour," both of which were published after his death by his nephew. He also compiled an ordinary of Arms classed in such a manner as to render it easy to ascertain the family to which any particular Coat belongs. This was augmented and improved by Edmondson, and is published in the first volume of his *Body of Heraldry*. Glover died in London, 14 April, 1588, aged 45, and was buried in St. Giles' Church, Cripplegate.—*Dictionary of Universal Biography*.

John Wallis, the celebrated mathematician, was born at Ashford in 1616, his father being then vicar. He received his education at Felstead school, Essex, and at Cambridge. Having taken holy orders he obtained a London living, and in 1644 became one of the secretaries to the Assembly of Divines at Westminster. He was one of the

first members of the scientific association which gave birth to the Royal Society, and in 1649 was appointed by the Parliamentary visitors Savilian Professor of Geometry at Oxford, where he was subsequently chosen keeper of the archives. He was particularly skilful in the art of deciphering, and having by this means been enabled to render considerable service to the royal cause, he was, on the restoration of Charles II., very favourably received at court and made one of the king's chaplains. In 1661 he was one of the divines appointed to review the Book of Common Prayer, and as he complied with the terms of the Act of Uniformity he continued a steady conformist to the established church till his death. When the Royal Society was founded in 1663, the name of Dr. Wallis was included in the list of the earliest members; and he added much to the reputation of that body by his valuable contributions to the Philosophical Transactions. He bestowed great attention, and that with good success, on the noble pursuit of devising means for the instruction of the deaf and dumb. He was the first to apply the principle of virtual velocities (discovered by Galileo) so as to make it the foundation of the whole science of statics. In his Arithmetic of Infinities he

approached nearer to the discovery of the method of fluxions than any of his predecessors and in this branch of mathematics is to be regarded as the immediate precursor of Newton. After a long life devoted to science and the duties of his clerical profession he died at Oxford in 1703. His works, including various treatises on theology, were published at Oxford in three volumes folio, and a volume of his sermons, printed from the original manuscripts, appeared in 1791.—*Popular Encyclopædia and Dictionary of Universal Biography.*

In Pepys' well-known Diary and Correspondence there are several allusions to Dr. Wallis, and the following letter:—

“Dr. Wallis to S. Pepys.

“Oxford, 24 Sep., 1701.

“Sir,—You have been pleased to put an honour upon me which I could not deserve, nor did expect—to send so worthy an artist as Sir Godfrey Kneller, from London to Oxford, to take my picture at length, and put the charge of it to your own account. I wish it may be to your content. It had been more agreeable to my circumstances, if you had commanded my attendance to wait on you at London; which I should have readily obeyed, if my age would permit it. Till I was

past fourscore years of age, I could pretty well bear up under the weight of those years; but since that time, it hath been too late to dissemble my being an old man. My sight, my hearing, my strength, are not as they were wont to be. Then I have no cause to complain of God's providence, through whose goodness I do yet enjoy as much of ease and health as I can reasonably expect at these years; and, though you and some other friends are pleased to think me not quite unserviceable, yet I must not so far flatter myself as not to think but that it doth better become me to conceal the infirmities of age than to expose them. I have endeavoured to express to Sir Godfrey the sense I have of your undeserved favour, by treating him with the respect due to a person of his quality; and, if I have been therein defective, I desire it may be imputed to the absence of my daughter, who is my housekeeper, but chanced now to be out of town; whereby I was obliged to depend on servants. I know not what to return for your great kindness, but the humble thanks of

"Sir, yours &c.,

"JOHN WALLIS."

Pepys himself, writing to Kneller, thus refers to the same subject—"I have long, with great

pleasure, determined upon providing as far as I could by your hand towards immortalizing the memory of the *person*, for his *fame* can never die, of that great man and my most honoured friend Dr. Wallis, to be lodged as an humble present of mine, though a Cambridge man, to my dear aunt, the University of Oxford." The portrait was sent to Oxford in September, 1702, and Pepys in the following month received a diploma and formal letter of thanks "for his noble testimony of respect and affection to learning and this university in the picture of one of their professors placed by him lately in their great gallery, among their founders, benefactors, and men of eminent worth and quality."

Although not a man who attained celebrity, Dr. William Warren must not be omitted from the catalogue of Ashford Worthies. The son of the Rev. Samuel Warren, vicar, he was born at the College, 27th April, 1683, and being admitted into orders, acted as curate of the parish in 1707, a subscription having been raised in that year among the inhabitants, and renewed on several occasions, for the purpose of providing his father with assistance. He seems to have had a strong taste for antiquarian and literary pursuits, coupled with

warm attachment to his native town. Under the influence of these feelings we find him communicating to the Royal Society an account of the ancient date already referred to as existing in this church, and compiling a manuscript description of Ashford Church, College, and School, a description which has been the means of preserving much interesting information that would otherwise have been lost, and to which the writer of these pages is deeply indebted. Mr. Warren's preface to his manuscript is so neatly and so unaffectedly expressed that I cannot resist the temptation to lay it before my readers :—"When I began to make ye following collections, I designed to have comprized all in a few pages; but as I went on I found my curiosity increased, till by degrees, as my leisure served, my papers swelled to this thickness. Perhaps it may be thought yt I have put down many things hardly worth ye notice I have taken of ym. I desire therefore yt whenever such things shall occur to any one yt shall read this account, he would pass them over and not regard them. However, if this book should chance to escape being torn to pieces or burnt; if it should happen to be preserved 'till we yt are now alive shall be dead and gone, perhaps those things which

may seem too minute and not worth taking notice of *now*, may not seem so *then*, especially to persons yt shall then live in this town, and shall be in any measure curious and inquisitive. But be this as it will, my desire is, yt this book may be always preserved at Ashford, and yt the Vicar for y^e time being may always have it in his own custody. I conclude with humbly beseeching God Almighty to bless and prosper the beloved place of my nativity. Wm. Warren, Ashford, July 25th, 1712."

The manuscript contains about 120 pages of small folio size and is for the most part very clearly written. After the death of his father, Dr. Warren probably resided at Cambridge, where he held a fellowship at Trinity Hall, and there in all likelihood he died. He was buried at Ashford, January 11th, 1744-5, and on a tablet affixed to the south wall of the south chancel of the church is the following inscription to his memory, from which we gather that the stone placed over his grave on the east of the churchyard having become broken and defaced, his grandnephews erected the tablet, on which they repeated the words of the original memorial:—

"Labefacto Gulielmi Warren, L.L.D., sepulchro extra Parietes ecclesiæ ad orientem sito quæ in eo

incisa erant in propatruī memoriā hic reficienda curaverunt. C et P. W.

H. S. E.

Gulielmus Warren, L.L.D., Aulæ S.S. Trinitatis Socius, Samuelis Warren filius hujus ecclesiæ olim vicarii, obiit A.D., 1744, anno ætatis suæ 61."

The Rev. R. H. Barham, the well-known author of the Ingoldsby Legends, resided for some time in Ashford as curate of the parish.

This town may also claim an interest in Brigadier John Jacob, C.B., whose great services in exterminating Thuggism in India and raising a regiment of native cavalry will ever entitle him to the gratitude of his country. His ancestor, Amos Jacob, M.D., who died in 1688, resided at Barrow Hill, and practised as a physician in this town. Dr. Jacob left a son, Edward Jacob, Esq., of Canterbury, who married Jane, daughter of the Rev. Strangford Viol, formerly master of the Ashford Grammar School, by Jane his wife a member of the family of Fogge, of Repton. Their grandson, the Rev. Stephen Long Jacob, was the father of the General, by Eliza Susanna, eldest daughter of the Rev. James Bond, vicar of Ashford; so that although not a native of the town, nor ever a resident, he was by repeated

family ties connected with it. General Jacob died in 1858. His brother, the Rev. G. A. Jacob, D.D., is the present Head Master of Christ's Hospital.

We may also mention that C. M. Norwood, Esq., M.P. for Hull, is a native of this town.

The following names of families now inhabiting the town, occur in the Registers at the date specified :—Elliott, 1579. Jemmett, 1586. Reeve, 1629. Dorman, 1640. Greenhill, 1645. Rabson, 1717.

CHARITIES.

THE Revd. Thomas Turner, D.D., President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, gave, in 1702, 63 acres of land, lying in the parish of Challock, for the support of a school for the education of poor children of this parish in the principles of the Church of England, with liberty to employ six pounds per annum of the rental in apprenticing a boy or girl, who must be able to repeat the catechism and be a constant attendant at the parish church. The Dean and Archdeacon of Canterbury for the time being were empowered by Dr. Turner to make, with the consent of the Archbishop, such regulations as they thought fit for the disposal of the charity, and under their sanction it is now applied to the maintenance of the National School. Trustees: Messrs. W. Whitfeld, B. K. Thorpe, F. H. Hallett, G. W. Greenhill, G. Elliott, jun., and E. W. Thurston.

Lieut. Brett, by will dated 1704, left twenty shillings per annum to be given away in clothing

to the poor of this parish. The bequest was charged on "Pillicars" or "Pell-Acre."

Thomas Milles, Esq., of Davington, by his will proved in 1627, left £200 to the poor of this parish, with which sum, augmented by £20, the bequest of Sir Richard Smythe, 23 acres of land were purchased at Hinxhill, and the rent is annually expended in relieving the necessitous. From the parish records are extracted the following notices relating to this bequest:—

"Feb. 2, 1672. Att a meeting in the church of Ashford, wee whose names are here under written do hereby agree and promise that whatsoever necessary expences and charges William Botting, churchwarden, shall be at in order to the gaining the £200 given long since by the will of Mr. Thomas Milles unto the poor of this towne, shall be alowed him either out of the said money if recovered or els out of the other estate belonging to the said poor. Francis Wreight, constable. James Bate. Tho. Eluye. Tho. Tamkin. John Grennell. John Denne. Thomas Reeve. John Brissenden. Tho. Jemmett. Richard Atkins."

"The names of those that lent money and were this 13 Aug. 1677, repaid:—

Mr. Hum. Wightwick	...	2	00	00
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" Francis Wreight	...	1	00	00
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Mr. Dan. Nower	3	00	00
" Richard Adkins	1	00	00
" Herbert Woodward	1	00	00
" John Greenhill	1	00	00
" Tho. Spratt	0	10	00
" Robert Greenhill	0	10	00
" Thos. Reeve... ..	0	05	00
" James Bate	4	00	00
" Tho. Curteis... ..	1	10	00
" Henry Wise	1	00	00
" Daniel Cuckow	1	00	00
" Waterman	1	00	00
" John Brissenden	0	10	00
" Widd. Fisher	1	00	00
" Clement Court	20	15	00
" Tho. Gibs	00	10	00
" Mark Wanstall	1	00	00
" Henry Lowndes	1	10	00
" Strangford Violl	1	10	00
" John Tidham	1	00	00
" Denne	00	10	00
" George Colt	1	10	00
" Tho. Fenner	1	00	00
" Tho. Jemmatt	00	10	00

51 00 00

"13 Aug., 1677. We whose hands are hereunto subscribed having lent several summs of money towards the suing for and recovering the legacy of £200 given by Tho. Milles, of Davington, of Judge Twisden, the purchaser of the said lands, doe hereby promise that if the said moneys be required to make up the sum of £200. allowed by the Court of Chancery, we will give our hands to an assessment for the re-imbursing of the same, witnesse our hands ye day and year abovesaid." Here follow 21 of the above names.

Thomas Milles, of Norton Court, and of Davington Hall, Customer of Sandwich, Keeper of Rochester Castle, and Esquire of the Body to James I., was nephew of Glover, Somerset Herald, and grandson of Richard Milles, Esq., of Hothfield, and was sent by Queen Elizabeth as Envoy to Henry IV. of France, for which service he had an augmentation to his armorial bearings. He translated and published some of his uncle's heraldic works. Trustees: Messrs. B. Thorpe, B. K. Thorpe, F. H. Hallett, G. W. Greenhill, W. Whitfeld, and G. Elliott, jun.

Mrs. Martha Copley (widow of Rev. John Copley, successively vicar of Bethersden and rector of Pluckley) dying in 1663, gave twenty

shillings to some "able and orthodox divine" to preach a sermon annually on the third of June for ever in Ashford church, and ten shillings to be distributed among the poor on the same day—the anniversary of her husband's funeral. These sums are charged on property in New Rents, now held by Messrs. Lewis and Hyland. She also bequeathed half-a-crown each to "those two men that were churchwardens of Pluckley that year" Mr. Copley was restored to his rectory, of which he had been deprived during the great rebellion.

John Ashurst left half-an-acre of land, now occupied by Messrs. Bunyard, for the repair of the church, to which one rood and six perches adjoining were added in 1850 by G. E. Jemmett, Esq.

Richard Best, in 1575, conveyed to certain trustees four acres of land at Barrow Hill for the "reparations of the parish church of Ashford," and one acre, three roods, and twelve perches for the benefit of the poor. Also, the Frith farm, at Beaver, consisting of thirty-one acres "to the intent, purpose, and trust for the reparations to and for the use, benefit, and advantage of the parish church of Ashford, in such form as Herberts' lands before that had been used to be employed, which Herberts' lands the said Richard

Beat took in exchange hereof." Trustees of Frith farm: Messrs. B. Thorpe, B. K. Thorpe, F. H. Hallett, G. W. Greenhill, and G. Elliott, jun.

Sir John Fogge, Knight, of Repton, by his will proved in 1490, bequeathed certain houses in the High Street, with lands called Cottynton, and rights of cutting grass, for the "reparations of the church at Ashford where most need shall be." Trustees: Messrs. T. Thurston, and W. Whitfeld.

Some portions of the above properties have at various times been necessarily sold, but the proceeds of such sales have been invested in government securities, and the interest is applied according to the wishes of the donors.

James Wall, Esq., by will dated 1848, gave £300 to the vicar and churchwardens for the benefit of the poor, to which £350 was added by public subscription, and with the whole sum four almshouses were erected in 1853-4, on a site presented by G. E. Jemmett, Esq. In 1854, Thomas Whitfeld, Esq., of Lewes, having given £100 towards the endowment of these houses, a piece of adjoining land was therewith purchased. Trustees: Vicar and Churchwardens, Messrs. G. W. Greenhill, T. Thurston, B. Thorpe, R. Rabson, J. M. Linom, and G. Elliott, jun.

Mr. H. P. Ramsey, chemist, of this town, who died in 1861, gave the annual interest of a sum amounting to about £600, the residue of his property, to the relief of poor members of the Wesleyan body.

WILL OF SIR JOHN FOGGE.

(Extracted out of the Registry of the Consistory Court of His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury. 1743.)

IN the Name of Jhu, Amen. I, John Fogge, knight, being in whole mind, thanked be God, the xvth day of July, the year of our Lord God, 1490, and vth year of the reign of King Harry the VIIth, make this my last Will and Testament, in manner and form as followeth. First, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and to His Blessed Moder and Maiden Saint Marie, and all the holy company of Heaven, and my body to be buried within the Church of Asshetyford, in a tomb ordained by me for the same. Also I give and bequeath unto the High Altar of the said Church of Asshetyford, in recompence of my Tythes and Offerings forgotten, vj viij^d. Also, I will that xii of the best dwellers of the said Parish, so that the Heir of my Manor of Repton be one of the said

xii, shall put all the Jewels and Ornaments by me ordained unto the Church in keeping of the best disposed man dwelling within the town of Asshetyford, so as the Wardens may have recours unto them, to set out and to have inne at all such Times as may be thought most for the Honour and Worship of God. Also, I will that Dame Alys my wife shall have two acres of ground lying beside her house at the Burrough in a Croft (be it more or less), the which house she late purchased of the heir of Pyers of Coouche, to have to her, her heirs, and her assigns, the said land for evermore. Also, I will that my said wife shall have all my lands in Romney Marshe the term of her life, except my lands called Stone, and a piece of land lying without Stone containing 4 acres more or less. Also, as to my mannours of Repton, Cheryton, my said Lands called Stone, and the said 4 acres of land, with the appurtenances, and all my lands and tenements purchased in the Parish of Asshetyford and West-hythe, except the 2 acres before granted unto my said wife, I will that my said ffeoffers of and upon the same do make a state thereof immediately after my decease to my sone, John ffogge, Esquire, and to the Heirs of his body coming, and for default of such heirs, the remayn-

ther thereof to the Heirs of my Body coming, and for default of such heirs, the remaynther thereof to John foughler, my neuewe, and to the heirs of his body coming, and for default of such heirs, the remaynther thereof to my right heirs for evermore. Also, as touching my mannors of oven, hepynton, dane, and Krykkessule, with their appurtenances, and my land purchased of Broke besides Krykkessule, I will that my Feoffees of and in the same after my decease suffer my said wife to take the profits of the said mannors and lands with the appurtenances, and she be sole unto the time she have received £300 for the marriage of my three daughters, Anne, Elizabeth, and Margaret. That is to say, unto the marriage of every one of them £100, and if it happen my said wife to be married or to dye, then I will that myne other Executors receive the said profits to the intent aforesaid, and after the £300 so received, I will my said Feoffees suffer my said wife, if she then live, to take the profits of the said 4 mannors during her natural life, without waste, and after her decease I will the said Feoffees do make a state of the mannor of Dane* unto John Fogge, my son, to have and

* Dane Court in Tilmanstone.

to hold to him and to the heirs of his body coming, and for default of such heirs all like remaynthers to be made of and in the same as before is declared of the mannors of Repton, Cheriton, and Stone, and as for the mannors of Oven,* Hepyn-ton, and Krykkessale†, and my lands purchased of Broke beside Krykkessale with the appurtenances, after the decease of my said wife, I will they be delivered unto Thomas Fogge, my son, with such remaynther as before declared. Also, as touching my mannor of Tonford‡ with the appurtenances, I will that my Feoffeis of and upon the same do make a state thereof immediately after my decease, unto the said Thomas, my son, with such remaynther as afore is assumed and rehersed. Also, I will that my Feeoffeis being seized of my tenement in Asshetyford called the Bull, after my decease do make a state of Fee simple unto my said son John Fogge, and where I have purchased of John Brett the reversion of a Tenement and certain lands in Asshetyford foresaid, I will that my Feoffeis, to whom the said reversion is granted, immediately

* Ovens-court in Selling.

† Crixall in Staple.

‡ Tonford in Thanington.

after my decease, and after the death of Margery Walton, moder unto the said John Brett, do make a state of the same Tenement and lands unto iiij of the most trustiest and discreet dwellers in the said Parish of Asshetyford, so always that none of my children, ne eny of their heirs, be any of the iiij, to the intent that the whole Revenues coming of the said Tenements and Lands on the necessary reparations and Rents going out of the same be paid yearly to the Wardens of the said Church for the time being, to be applied by the same Wardens in and about the reparations of the said Church where most need shall be. Also, I will that the Wardens for the time being of the revenues of the same shall find Two Tapres of a Pound a piece upon the great Candlestick in the Quere. To brenne every high double fest most principall in the year, and Also Three & iiij^d to be paid to the Vicar and his Successors for an Obite yearly for me, to be done in the said Church for evmore. Also, I will That whensoever two of the said Four dwellars decease that the other Two en living Do make a state to iiij other Dwellars of the same Parish *most trusty and of sadness*, other then any of my children and their heirs, and so for evermore to be continued to the Intent aforesaid.

Also, I will that after the decease of my said wife, All such Lands as She hath Time of her Life in Romeney Msh shall be departed evenly between my said sons with such Remaynther as is afore declared, and my Feoffeis do make a state of them Severally, provided alway that if any of my said Daughters be married by my Life or by my permission after my decease, so as She so married be preferred by Reason of her marriage of the possessions of her Husband to the Value of Twenty Marks yearly for Time of her Life, that then the said C^{li} ordained by this my Will for her marriage be not paid to her so married ne for her marriage. But that myn executors and Administrators of my Goods be thereof utterly acquitted and discharged, and in Case that any of my said Daughters decease before she be married or preferred by her marriage, as afore is said. That then myn executors be discharged of payment of any money for her marriage so deceased, and furthermore I will my said daughters not married be in the Governance and Guiding of my said Wife. Also, I will that the Profits of the Monyage of the son and heir of Humphry Stafford be received by myn executors, wherefore I will an Hundred Marks be kept for the Susstentation and

finding of my said Three Daughters unto the time that shall happe them to be married and the Remanent to be kept in helping and discharging of the said 300 pound, so as the Lands designed for the same may the sooner be discharged. And as touching the Mannors and Lands of Walmer and Mongehim with the Appurtenances. After my Decease and after the recovery of the Same, I will that xx Marks yearly thereof be paid unto John Kyriell and Remanent of the Revenues thereof to be received by myn Executors in helping of the payment of the said 300 pound, so as the Mannors and Lands assigned for the same may, the sooner be discharged to the accomplishment of this my will, and then a State Taile of the said Mannors, Lands, and Tenements, with their Appurtenances, be made to Thomas Fogge, my son, with such Remaynther as is afore rehersed. Also, I will as for my Stuff that longeth unto my Chapel at Repton, that it remain unto my son John Fogge, except that My Wife shall have thereof a Vestment of Velvet, a Masseboke, which she will chuse of the Twain, Two Basenes of Silver for the Altar, a Crosse of Silver and Gylt, Two Crewets Silver and Gylt, and a Sakeryng Bell Gylt, which Basenes, Crosse, Crewets, and

Sakeryng Bell I will my said wife shall have Time of her Life, if She live Sole, and after her decease to remain unto my said Son, or to his heirs then being alyve to th' use of the said Chapel; and if she be married, I will they be left to the said Chapel forthwith. Also, I will that my said son John Fogge shall have a Standing Cup gylt with a white splayd eagle standing upon the covring, and the Residue of all my goods and cattalls above not disposed, I will my wife have them to do and dispose therewith at her will and pleasure, whether she will keep it to her self, or give it to any other person or persons. And for the execution of this my will and Testament I ordain and make the Reverend Fader in God Master James Goldewelle* Bishop of Northwich,

* Every inhabitant of Ashford is familiar with the toll of trees, about a mile to the west of Great Chart Church, from which a beautiful view of the surrounding country may be obtained, and which marks the site of the old manor-house of Goldwell. But everyone does not know that here was the seat of a family who were great benefactors to the parish they inhabited and who gave two bishops to the unreformed Church of England. One of these was the "Executor" named in the will. James Goldwell was born at Goldwell, and educated at All Souls' College, Oxford. Having been appointed Dean of Salisbury and Secretary to Edward IV he was in 1472 promoted to the Bishoprick of Norwich, where he erected the present noble clerestory and roof of the cathedral choir. He also repaired Chart Church and founded the south chancel—the chapel of the Holy Trinity, in the east window of which his portrait was for-

Dame Alys Fogge, Master Nicholas Goldewell,
John Ffyneux,† and Sir‡ Thomas Willmote, vicar

merly to be seen, kneeling, and surrounded by golden wells. He died in 1498, and was buried in Norwich Cathedral, where an altar-tomb, enriched on the sides with ornamental panels, remains to his memory. "The figure upon it, which has been painted and gilt, is interesting in spite of much injury, and is remarkable as being the only instance of the monumental effigy of a Bishop prior to the Reformation, in which the cappa pluvialis or processional cope is represented as the outward vestment instead of the casula or chesible." Thomas Goldwell, also born at Goldwell, was one of the most persistent adherents of the Romish Church. He was a member of All Souls' College, Oxford, where he was distinguished by his attainments in astronomy and mathematics. Being attainted with Cardinal Pole in 1538, he lived abroad during the reigns of Henry VIII and Edward VI, but was raised by Mary in 1555 to the see of St. Asaph. Soon after he induced the Pope to renew the indulgences granted to those who went on pilgrimages to St. Winifred's Well, at Holywell, in Flintshire. Refusing to make the required compliance on the accession of Elizabeth, he was deprived, "and conveying himself away beyond the seas" presented himself at the Council of Trent in 1562. The remainder of his life was for the most part passed at Rome, "where he lived very pontifically among the Theatines," and was appointed by the Pope to baptize Jews there and to ordain Englishmen who should fly thither for religion's sake. In 1580 it was proposed that Bishop Goldwell should go over to England to perform episcopal offices for the English Romanists. For this purpose he proceeded as far as Rheims; but his strength failing him he returned to Rome, and died soon afterwards, being more than 80 years old. He was esteemed among the Englishmen at Rome "a most useful person, and was had in great veneration for his learning." At Ravenana, in the convent of the Theatines is a picture of Goldwell, with an inscription styling him "Fidei confessor conspicuus."

† John Fineux was probably the well-known lawyer, subsequently Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

‡ "Sir" was the title commonly applied to the parochial clergy at that day, but did not imply knighthood.

of Asshetyford, myn Executors, and I will that the said Master Nicholas shall have of my goods 40s., John Fyneux £iij Six Shillings and eightpence, and his Cost whensoever he ride or go for me in the accomplishment of this my will, and the said Vicar 40s., and also I will that such Store as is delivered to the Farmer of any mannor that I have shall remain to the mannor to th' use of him that shall have it, and as for the Store of the Mannor of Tonford, I will that John Fogge deliver them when he depart to th' use of my Son Thomas Fogge, sixteen quarters of wheat, twenty-five quarters of Barley, and 50 Coppis of Podware. Also, I will that Thomas Fogge my Son have all my instruments of Musick, except a pair of Clanecords, and a pair of ebony symbolis (?) the which I will that my son John Fogge have with God's Blessing and Mine, and the said Thomas both, so that they pturd [*sic*] ne let not my said will to be executed. In witness whereof to this my last will I have set my sign manuell. furthermore I will that John Fogge, My Son, shall bear and pay all and all manner of Costs, Expences, and Charges for the Recovere of the Mannors of Oestynhanger, Walmer, and Mongham, with their Appurtenances, toward the which charge I will that he shall receive of myn executors £50, and after the

recovery so had I will the said John, my son, shall have the said Manor of Ostynhanger, with such remaynther as is afore declared, bearing and paying the charges of the Annuity of xx marks unto John Kyriell during his natural Life, this my said will before otherwise ordained notwithstanding. Furthermore I will that Dame Alys, my wife, shall have during her life the Moneys being and Increasing upon the purchased Lands lying in the Highway beside Hoak at [*sic*] with free coming thereto and free going for her and her assigns to take and feche when it shall please her at all times. During the said Time also I will my said wife shall have a Parcell of Land and Wood Called Sagvale, containing by estimation Thirty Acres, which I purchased of William Brockman, during her Life, and to have her fewell therein and if it not sufficient for fewell for her expence then I will she have her fewell in Kingsnorth during the said Time, and after her decease I will my sons depart the sd. Parcell of Land and Wood called Saguaill with the appurtenances evenly between them, my Feoffies of and in the same make them a state severally with such Remaynther as is afore declared, and each of them to keep the clousure of his part.

Proved the day of 1490.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL, Regr.

INDENTURE BY SIR JOHN FOGGE'S WIDOW.

THIS Indenture made ye 18th day of August, in ye 3rd year of ye Reign of King Henry 8th, between Dame Alice ffogge, widdow, on ye one part, and John Roper, Esq., Edward Mongeham, Clerk, John Tuck, Gent., Richard Woodward, Edward Woodward, Henry Esharst, Robert Eastley, — Basely, John Esharst, Austin Linch, and Wm. ffright, and their heirs, on ye other part, witnesseth y^t whereas ye said Dame Alice ffogg, by her deed bearing date of these presents, hath enfeofed ye said John Roper, &c., of and in a messuage, two acres of land, and two acres of meadow, lying and being in ye Town and Parish of Eshford, to have and to hold ye said messuage, &c., to ye said John Roper, &c. The intent and condition of ye said ffeoffment is this—That the said John Roper, &c., stand and be seized of ye said messuage, &c., to ye use of Richard Smith to ye end and term of 60 years, under form following: *i.e.*, that the said Richard Smith shall keep and maintain by ye space and term aforesaid

yearly in ye church of Eshford, at ye time and day of ye Obbytte yt is done for Sir John fogge, Knight, late husband of ye said Dame Alice, an obbitte of 10s. 6d. for ye soule of Sir John fogge, Knight, and for ye soule of me Alice his wife, for the soules of William Hawte and Joan his wife, our children's soules, and all our friends' soules that be past and to come, to be distributed under form following: To ye Master of ye College of Eshford for ye time being for Mass and Dyrge by note, to be paid according to ye commendable custome of ye country, viiid. Also, to one Priest of ye College, if any such there be, at ye said Time for like service to be done, viiid. Also to ye Morrow-Mass Priest, for like service to be done, viiid. Also, to two children of ye College afore-said, to everyone of them for helping of ye Obit, iid. Also, to two Clarks of ye College, if so many there be, to every of them, viiid. Also to ye Clark of ye Parish for Ringing ye Great Bell for ye space of ye 3 Masses, xd. If lack be of ye said Master, &c., then ye said money shall be distributed to other certain Priests, they doing ye service by ye discretion of my ffeoffees.

Also, ye said Richard Smith, at ye said Obit yearly shall distribute to two other honest and

discreet Priests for Masses and Dyrges then and there to be had. To every of them, vid. Also, at ye said Obit yearly to 13 poor people of Eshford, to every of them, 1d. Also, in Ale for ye said poor people, xiid. Also, in Bread for ye same, vijd. Also, in Sothen Beef for ye same, xiid. Also, at every Mass to offer, 1d. Also, for ye waste of Six Tapers yearly at ye Obit, xiid.

If Richard Smith default, then ye ffeoffees to enter and put out Smith, and receive ye profits. And after 60 years, if no default in Smith, then ye ffeoffees to be seized of ye said messuage, &c. And ye rest of ye profits of ye said messuage, &c., if any be, after ye term of ye said Smith, to be bestowed about charitable works of ye said Church of Ashford. After ye said term ye Churchwardens to have ye disposal of ye Obit, and every of them to have for their labour, viiid. If ye Master of ye College be not content with ye said Obit, then Smith and ffeoffees to keep ye Obit some where else in like manner as in ye church of Eshford.

In witness whereof, &c.

The Messuage and lands after 60 years to remain wholly to the Church for ever. The Copy-hold garden on ye south part of ye church-

yard,* holden at ye will of ye Lord, after Smith's decease a surrender thereof to be made to two of ye honest men of ye Parish aforesaid, to remain with ye house for ever.

This Indenture and the Will of Sir John Fogge are taken from copies in the parish chest, of which the churchwardens for the time being have the custody.

* The house and garden on the south side of the churchyard have long been lost, but the other benefactions still remain in the possession of Ashford Church. The obit has, of course, been discontinued since the reformation.

EXTRACTS FROM MR. FURLEY'S LECTURE.

FROM the interesting lecture entitled "Home Reflections, or Ashford, Past and Present, by Robert Furley," I am kindly allowed to make the following extracts:—

"POPULATION.

1801	.....	2,151	1841	.....	3,082
1811	.....	2,532	1851	.....	5,007
1821	.....	2,273	1861	.....	6,950
1831	.....	2,809			

Thus it will be seen that the population in 1861 was more than three times as large as in 1801, and that there was no material change between 1811 and 1841, and that it was more than doubled between 1841 and 1861.

"Our mornings are still ushered in by the five o'clock bell, and while the shades of evening close around us, the Conqueror's badge of servitude, 'the solemn curfew,' may still be heard. The morning bell is, no doubt, useful to the mechanic,

but thirty years ago it was equally useful to the enterprising individual who contemplated a journey to London and back on the same day; for he had, at the sound of this bell, to shake off his drowsiness, and prepare for a journey in Mr. Francis Packham's van to Maidstone. This started about six and the proprietor did all in his power to amuse his passengers during their tedious journey. At Maidstone you were taken on by coach to London, and arrived there (if the roads were good) by about one o'clock and had two hours to transact business in London: at three you returned the same way, and reached Ashford about ten at night, thus devoting fourteen hours in travelling to gain two hours in London. What would be said of this in these go-a-head days? About ten o'clock the old Folkestone coach made its appearance at the Saracen's Head on its way to London, and many were the heads thrust out of doors and windows to behold one of the great events of the day. There were two coaches on the road, one leaving London, and the other Folkestone, daily; the coach from London reached Ashford about four, and as the fiery chesnuts came round the Castle corner, many an idler rushed to the Saracen's Head for the latest intelligence from the great city, and to get a

sight of one solitary copy of *The Times* for the use of the whole town. The drivers of these coaches, (poor Richardson and Wallace) were great favourites with the public, but like most favourites, they were spoilt, and when their daily occupation was gone, they were soon forgotten. Each mid-day witnessed the arrival of the different vans from the cross-roads, and as they occupied the space under the Public Rooms, some little bustle was occasioned thereby. The Cattle Market, then held in the town on the first and third Tuesday, was the most important event of the week.

“Next in importance were the proceedings of the select vestry. From the close of the war in 1815 to the year 1818 a number of unemployed, idle, and dissolute men sought parochial relief, and Ashford soon felt the effect of it. The result was that in the year 1818 Ashford, with a population of 2500, expended no less than £3,450 on its poor, of which £1,212 was expended in weekly relief. This state of things aroused the rate-payers, and a select vestry was formed, who met weekly and by their steady and unwearied exertions they had, when the New Poor Law came into operation, reduced both these items to less than one-third—the amount expended in that year

(1834-5) being only £1,160 and the weekly relief only £358. Our old parish workhouse stood at the end of New-rents, adjoining the fire-engine house, where, weekly, from the year 1818 to 1835, the members of the select vestry regularly attended. Sir Edmund Head, the assistant poor-law commissioner, was present at one of these meetings, and took notes of what passed, which he afterwards published in the *Quarterly Review* in a paper on "English Charity." The late Mr. Richard Greenhill was the chairman on the occasion (and a better one could not have been found, as he was foremost to maintain the honour of his native town), Mr. Richard Thorpe and Mr. William Morley were the overseers. Of the sixteen members then present only Mr. Bayley, Mr. R. Lewis, Mr. B. Thorpe, and Mr. T. Thurston now reside in the town. In the article referred to Sir Edmund Head writes—'The system of administering relief to the poor in the parish and town of Ashford is so creditable to East Kent, it has produced such beneficial effects, and it offers such valuable instruction to the Poor Law Commissioners, as well as to the country in general, that it may be useful to lay before the public a short account of it.' It would be tedious to detail

here the proceedings and mode of dealing with the applicants for relief as reported by Sir Edmund. The most scrutinizing enquiries he states were made, and in several cases attempts at imposition were detected, exposed, and the claim refused. 'Every applicant,' he continues, 'had the advantage of appearing before a well-educated jury of practical men, who, as far as he was capable of judging, seemed determined to administer justice with mercy. The moral effect of this sensible, humane, and business-like system it is almost impossible for anyone, however deeply he may have considered the subject, to calculate.' He closes his remarks by stating, 'It is almost needless to add that if every parish had bestowed the same attention on their poor as the parish of Ashford, the Poor Law Amendment Act might instantly be repealed, and its commissioners, their secretary, and their assistants, scattered like chaff before the wind; but I regret that the parish of Ashford is but an oasis in the desert.' As an honourable distinction to the town, Sir Edmund Head, in forming the East and West Ashford Unions, omitted it from both, and recommended the Commissioners not to disturb the select vestry. The inhabitants, however, soon petitioned to be

united to the West Ashford Union. The first guardians were the late Mr. William Walter and Mr. Mark Dorman. Mr. Thorpe, sen., and Mr. Lepine subsequently filled the office; and when Mr. Thorpe retired in 1863 a dinner was given to him for having served the town in various ways for forty years. Ashford is now represented by three guardians—Messrs. Dorman, Norwood, and Greenhill.

“All the different markets of the town, though originally chartered as far back as the reign of Henry III., were deemed of but little note until the latter part of the last century, when increased importance and value were attached to the grazing land in Romney Marsh, and the different approaches to the town were materially improved by means of hard roads. This led to the establishment of the stock market in 1784. The great promoter of this movement, as well as of the improvement of the roads, was the late Mr. Henry Creed, to whom a monument exists on the the wall of the south chancel.

“The Ashford Bank was established by the Messrs. Jemmett in the year 1791, and their place of business was at Mr. Wilks's present surgery, in North-street, the firm being

Jemmett, Whitfeld, and Jemmett. Then it was removed to the late Mr. W. Jemmett's residence where Mr. Burra, sen., now resides. It was afterwards removed to the house where Mr. Dowsett now carries on his business. The bank was closed, except on market days, between the hours of one and two, and only one individual was then required to transact the whole business of the town. The late Mr. Simonds was the clerk and manager for several years, and went to his dinner at one o'clock. One of the most daring robberies of that period (for even robbers have daily increased in skill) was perpetrated in the year 1827 and the offenders escaped detection. It is supposed that some London thieves had by false keys satisfied themselves that when the bank was closed every evening, the property was removed for the night to a strong room, from the shop now occupied by Mr. Dowsett to the late Mr. G. E. Jemmett's house (the present place of business), but that it was not removed in the middle of the day, and that if they were not to be foiled, they must enter the premises while Mr. Simonds was at dinner, and this was at last effected and everything of any value was taken away. The iron safe in which the property was kept was again closed by the

the thieves and a ring put over the pipe of the lock; thus the time occupied in forcing open the safe enabled the thieves to escape with greater ease. By a compromise the property, except the cash, was subsequently recovered.

"There was another private bank, which was carried on by the late Mr. Edward Stoddart up to the year 1829 at Dr. Beet's present surgery. The late Mr. John Hutton was a member of the firm.

"The ornamental building for the Billiard Club at the corner of Park-street was erected in 1867; and I suppose almost the last, but not to my mind the least important recent event which I have to record is the opening of the public Swimming Bath, which is calculated, as I believe, to be of essential service to the rising generation."

ON THE STOUR,
AS CONNECTED WITH THE PARISH OF ASHFORD.

Communicated by Mr. Thurston.

THE river Stour, which forms a considerable feature in this parish, divides it into three very unequal portions. The largest, in which the town stands, contains about 1700 acres, and extends to Repton and Sandyhurst. The second, consisting of 700 acres, is the Beaver portion, and lies to the south of the two branches, whose confluence is at the bridge on the road to Hythe. The third, containing about 300 acres, is chiefly occupied by the East Stour farm and the railway factory.

The Western Stour has several sources, of which the principal are at East Lenham and Westwell church. It supplies nearly twenty mills with water-power before it enters this parish at Bucksford-mill, and after passing through several rich meadows it formerly joined the eastern branch at Pole-bay, near the railway station, but some

centuries ago it was diverted into a new channel, called the Lord's-cut, passing the Whist to the Ashford water mill, which then belonged to the Lord of the Manor. By this means the head of water is held back about a mile and a fall of some five feet obtained, by which the breast wheel of the mill is propelled. The western branch here falls into the eastern, which rises at Postling church, and after receiving tributary streams from Lympne, Quarrington, and Kingsnorth, enters this parish near the railway factory. The united waters then pass under the bridge at the mill. This bridge is a fine arch of 35 feet span, and was built by the county in 1683, as appears from the following inscription on a stone inserted in the southern face :—

□ □ □

THIS BRIDGE WAS REPAIRED
AT THE CHARGE OF THE WHOLE
COUNTY AN.DI. 1683 S^r NICHOLAS
TOKE KN^t & WILLIAM
ANDREWS & WILLIAM RANDOLPH
ESQ^{RES} COMMISSIONERS AND
THOMAS ADDS, THOMAS BIGG
& THOMAS ANDREWS
WORKMEN.

At the top of the stone, above the inscription, are the three shields of arms of the three commissioners. Sir Nicholas Toke, of Godinton, knight, was Sheriff of Kent in 1693. Mr. Andrews was of Bucksford. "Thomas Crispe, of Goudhurst, conveyed Bucksford by sale to Andrews, and Alexander Andrews sold it in 1690." William Randolph, of Burton, in Kennington, justice of the peace in the reigns of Charles II., James II., William and Mary, Anne, and George I., born 1634, died 11th March, 1715, aged 81.

History says that the bridge formerly consisted of four stone arches, for which the present single arch is an excellent substitute. In 1834 the trustees of the turnpike road from Ashford to Hythe removed the four arches by which the foot-path was raised above the floods which here overflowed the roadway and erected a second bridge. It has a span of 24 feet and is also under the superintendence of the county. At the same time another channel was cut through a small inclosure known as the Martyr's field—the scene probably of the martyrdoms in the Marian persecution already mentioned—which had been a fellmonger's yard and subsequently the timber yard of Messrs. Bridger.

In 1858 the trustees of the Hythe road widened

the roadway over the bridge by 10 feet—on which occasion the inscription previously given was brought to light. When the second bridge was built in 1834 the old way to the *ford*—which was at a trifling distance to the east of the bridge—was found at a very low level, and several curiosities were discovered, such as coins, antique horse-shoes, &c. The sunken way by which the ford is approached from Willesborough shows how many generations have trodden in the same path, and like indications near the other entrances testify that for centuries Ashford has been the focus of intercommunication and the nucleus of the district.

The river leaves the parish at Bybrook, where it receives the waters of a stream which rises near Sandyhurst, and subsequently supplies the Bybrook ponds and an over-shot mill-wheel.

I may add that the land stretching from the Wesleyan chapel to the Church-yard, on the north side of Tufton-street, was formerly the Bull-close, and is so named in the court-rolls of the manor; that the main thoroughfare from Maidstone and Chart in the days of the pack-horses was rather by New-rents than New-street; and that when the new roads were laid out on the Jemmett estate a

number of ancient graves were discovered in the neighbourhood of Queen-street, with a skeleton and armour, as well as the very curious glass vessel already described in this history.



ARMS OF ASHFORD.

THE formation of a Local Board rendered a "common seal" necessary, and a design, of which we give an engraving, prepared by a gentleman of the town for a public occasion, was accordingly adopted and duly sanctioned. The seal, therefore, though not authorized by the College of Heralds, has a certain authority, and fairly represents the Arms of Ashford as they should be. The allusions are very happy and combine with considerable success the various sources of the town's prosperity. The coat is thus heraldically blazoned :—

Gules, on a fess *argent* three annulets *sable*, in chief a Kentish horse rampant, of the second, in base a locomotive engine, *or*, inscribed "Invicta." The field *gules* charged with the white horse is that traditionally ascribed to Hengist, the supposed founder of the Kentish monarchy. The fess and annulets are taken from the armorial bearings of Sir John Fogge, the greatest benefactor the parish ever knew. The proud Kentish motto "Invicta" naturally formed a name for the steam engine, which points to the connection of the town with the South Eastern Railway and its branches—a connection from which Ashford dates its progressive increase and present importance in the county. Thus we have, *tria juncta in uno*, the Ashford of Saxon, of mediæval, and of modern days.

A D D E N D A .

RISE OF ASHFORD.

IN a note to his folio edition, under the head of Chart Magna, Hasted writes "The inhabitants have a tradition that Great Chart was once a far more considerable place than at present, having had a great street of houses on the east side, in the road which goes up by Singleton to the top of the hill, where there have been many houses in the memory of man. The ruins of the market-house were to be seen in the field where the fair is now kept, over against the church, which probably was but a kind of a chapel when this town was burnt down by the Danes, and then *Ashford* began to rise, and grow out of the ruins of it."

LUCAS.

In the list of the gentry of this county returned by the Commissioners in the twelfth year of Henry VI., 1434, as given by Fuller in his

"Worthies," occurs the name of "William Lucas, of Essheford."

DR. RUTTON.

PAGE 6.—On further enquiry, I find that I am mistaken in speaking of the house now occupied by Messrs. Startup and Hyland, and which about thirty years ago was the property of Mr. Henry Loftie Rutton, as having belonged to Dr. Rutton. The Doctor's residence was what is now the Ashford Bank, where his coat of arms may still be seen in one of the windows.

WOODWARDS OF BROOKE PLACE.

PAGE 7.—As the Woodwards were so long connected with Ashford, and occupied a high position among the residents of the town, I have extracted from the Registers the entries relating to them and have given their pedigree.

Baptisms.

1572. Oct. 5. Danyell Woodward.

1606. May 25. Edward, son of Edward Woodward.

1609-10. Jan. 14. Dorithye, daughter of Edward Woodward, gent.

1644. April 26. Herbert Woodward, the sonne of Edward and Anne Woodward, was borne and baptized, May 6.

1646. July 8. Frances, daughter of Edward and Anne Woodward.

1650. John, son of Edward and Anne Woodward, born 8 and bap. 19 May.

1683. Aug. 30. Francis, son of Francis and Elinor Woodward.

1686. June 28. Martha, daughter of Herbert and Elizabeth Woodward.

1688. Sept. 17. John, son of Herbert and Elizabeth Woodward.

1690. Oct. 7. Martha, daughter of Herbert and Elizabeth Woodward.

Marriages.

1571. April 22. William Padnall and Susan Woodward.

1700. July 23. Robert White, widower, and Margaret Woodward, widow, both of this parish.

Burials.

1570. October 16. Margaret Woodward, the daughter of William Woodward, was buried.

1578. Aug. 7. Margaret Woodward, the wiffe of Willm. Woodward, gentilman, was buried.

1585. Julie 18. William Woodward, gentilman, was buried.

1616. June 10. Edward Woodward, gent., householder, buried.

1618. Aug. 11. William Woodward, gent., buried.

1624-5. Feb. 28. Mrs. Elizabeth Woodward, widdowe, buried.

1628. Oct. 6. Mrs. Elizabeth Woodward, buried.

1639-40. Jan. 29. Mr. Reynold Woodward, gent.

1664. Sept. 9, Anne, wife of Mr. Edward Woodward.

1678. Nov. 14. Anne, wife of Mr. Herbert Woodward.

1680. Oct. 2. Edward Woodward, gent.

1686. Oct. 12. Martha, daughter of Mr. Herbert Woodward.

1700. Nov. 3. Herbert Woodward, gent.

1702. July 13. Martha, daughter of Herbert Woodward.

1708. July 13. Frances Woodward.

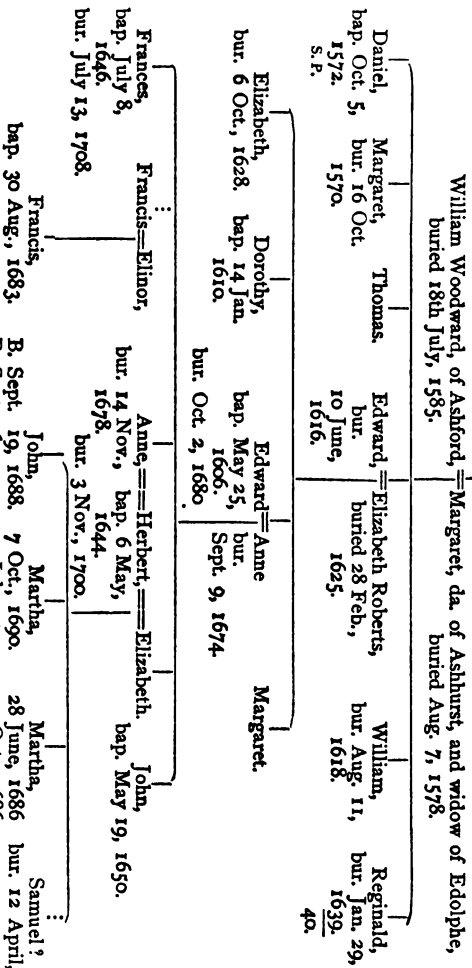
1720. April 12. Samuel Woodward.

1757. Sept. 26. Mr. John Woodward.

Seat—Brooke Place, Ashford, which the last mentioned re-built.

Dame Alice Fogge, in an indenture dated 1512, mentions Richard Woodward—whether or no of this family I cannot tell.

Rd. Woodward of Woodmarsh.



This Pedigree is compiled from the Visitation of 1619, as given in Berry, and from the Registers. The entries thus ... doubtful.

SIR SIMON BURLEY.

PAGE 17.—Of this Sir Simon de Burley, who was for a time short lord of the Manor of Ashford, I have collected the following particulars. Lingard says, "He had belonged to the court of Edward III., had been selected by the Black Prince as guardian to Richard II., and had negotiated the marriage between his Sovereign and Anne of Bohemia. He was attached to the king as to his son; and the king loved and revered him as a father." He had, however, rendered himself obnoxious to the Duke of Gloucester, the King's uncle, in whose power Richard then was, and his death was resolved upon. "Richard," continues Lingard, "earnestly solicited Gloucester to spare him; but received for answer, that if he meant to keep his crown, he must consent to the execution of his favourite. The queen on her knees seconded the prayer of her husband; but neither her rank nor beauty, her tears nor entreaties, could soften the heart of the tyrant. When the parliament re-assembled the enquiry was resumed; Richard obstinately maintained that Burley was innocent; and by refusing his assent for three weeks averted the fate of his friend. At length, on an occasion when the king, and the lords who supported him,

were absent, the opposite party resolved that one out of the thirteen counts in the impeachment had been brought home to the prisoner. He was called in, and immediately condemned on the vague charge of having conspired with other traitors to compass the death of those who had established the late commission of government. He suffered the same day (5 May, 1388,) and the only indulgence which he could obtain was a commutation of the more ignominious part of the punishment into decapitation." Stowe calls Sir Simon "an intollerable proud man and great oppressor of the poor." Froissart represents him in a more favourable light as "a gentle knight and of strong good sense." His account of the circumstances preceding his death is so life-like that I am tempted to give it in full—"Sir Simon Burley was charged with defalcations to the amount of 250,000 francs (£10,000, equal perhaps to £200,000 of our money.) When called upon to account for what had become of it, he cast the blame on the Archbishop of York and Sir William Neville, saying he had never acted but with them, and in conjunction with the king's chamberlains; but those, when examined excused themselves and flung the whole fault on him. The Duke of Ireland said to

Sir Simon privately—"I understand you are to be arrested and sent to prison until you shall pay the sum you are charged with. Do not dispute the matter, but go whither they may order; I will make your peace with the king, though they had all sworn to the contrary. You know the constable of France owes me 40,000 francs for the ransom of John of Blois, and this sum he will shortly pay; I will offer the amount to the commissioners, which, for the moment, will satisfy them, but the king is sovereign; he will pardon you all, for the balances must be paid to him and to none other." "If I did not depend," replied Sir Simon de Burley, "that you would strongly support me with the king, and assist me personally in this matter, I would cross the sea and go to the king of Bohemia. I should be well received there, and remain for a time until all this bustle were blown over." "I will never forsake you," said the Duke of Ireland; "are we not companions, and equally implicated? You must ask time for repayment. I know well that you can pay, when you please, in ready money 100,000 francs. Do not fear death, for they will never push matters so far as that; and before Michaelmas things shall have a different turn from what these lords think; let me

only have the king in my power, and I will have him, for all that he now does he is forced to. We must satisfy these cursed Londoners and put an end to all this discontent they have raised against us and our friends." Sir Simon Burley put a little too much confidence in these words of the Duke of Ireland, and presented himself before the commissioners when called upon. They said, "Sir Simon, you have been a knight who has done honour to our country, and were greatly beloved by the late Prince of Wales. You and the Duke of Ireland have been the principal ministers of the king. We have carefully examined all your accounts that have been laid before us, and must tell you they are neither fair nor honourable, which has displeased us for the love we bear you. We have therefore unanimously resolved that you be sent to the Tower of London, there to be confined until you shall have re-paid, in this chamber, according to our orders, the sum you have received for the king and realm, and for which, from the examination of the treasurer, you have never accounted; the sum amounts to 250,000 francs. Now have you anything to say in your defence?" Sir Simon was much disconcerted, and said, "My lords, I shall willingly obey, as it is proper I

should, your commands, and go whither you may please to send me. But I entreat that I may have a secretary allowed me to draw out an account of the great expenses I have formerly been at in Germany and Bohemia, when negotiating the marriage of our king and lord. If I should have received too much, grant me, through the king's grace and your's, that I may have a reasonable time for repayment." "To this we agree," replied the lords, and Sir Simon Burley was then conducted to the Tower. He was mortally hated by the king's uncles and the commons of England. The king did everything in his power to deliver him from prison during the time he resided at Sheene (*i.e.* Richmond), but the commissioners being determined to oppress him, dissembled, and said they could not as yet set him at liberty, for his accounts were not closed. The king, accompanied by the Duke of Ireland, journeyed towards Wales, by way of Bristol; and wheresoever he went he was followed by the queen and all the ladies and damsels of her court. Although the king of England had left London his uncles there remained with their advisers. You have often heard that, when any disorder is in the head, all the other members of the body are affected by it,

and that this sickness must be purged away by some means or other. I say this because the Duke of Ireland was in such favour with the king that he managed him as he pleased, and governed him at will. Sir Simon Burley was also one of the principal advisers; and between them both they ruled, for a long time, king and kingdom. They were suspected of having amassed very large sums of money, and it was rumoured they had sent great part of it for safety to Germany. It had also come to the knowledge of the king, his uncles, and the rulers of the principal towns in England, that great cases and trunks had been secretly embarked from Dover castle in the night-time, which were said to contain this money sent fraudulently abroad by them to foreign countries, in consequence of which the kingdom was greatly impoverished of cash. Many grieved much at this, saying that gold and silver had become so scarce as to occasion trade to languish. Such speeches increased the hatred to Sir Simon Burley, and the commissioners declared they thought he deserved death. In short, they, on finishing his accounts, condemned him to suffer this punishment, instigated thereto by a desire to please the country, and by the Archbishop of

Canterbury, who related to the lords that Sir Simon wanted to remove the shrine of St. Thomas from Canterbury to Dover castle, as he said, for greater security, at the time the French invasion was expected ; but it was commonly believed that he meant to seize it and carry it out of England. Many, now he was in prison, came forward against him ; and the knight was so overpowered, that nothing he could say in his defence availed him ; so that he was carried forth out of the Tower, and beheaded, as a traitor, in the square before it. God have mercy on his misdeeds ! Notwithstanding I thus relate his disgraceful death, which I am forced to by determination to insert nothing but truth in this history, I was exceedingly vexed thereat, and personally much grieved ; for in my youth I had found him a gentle knight, and, according to my understanding, of great good sense. When King Richard, who was amusing himself in Wales, heard of the death of Sir Simon Burley, he was very wroth ; for he had been one of his tutors and had educated him ; and he swore it should not remain unrevenged, for he had been cruelly put to death, and without the smallest plea of justice. The queen also bewailed his loss." His attainder was reversed in the

following reign—a tolerable proof, as his enemies were then in power, that it had not been deserved.

ALTAR-PIECE.

PAGE .—"The paper of subscriptions," writes Warren, "for the rebuilding of the Altar coming some time since to my hands, I will here give a true copy of it.—Whereas the ancient Altar and Altar-piece of the Parish Church of Ashford (having been both decent and ornamental, rising with a fine ascent, and the same railed in after a decent manner,) were in the time of rebellion in the reign of our truly pious and late martyred Sovereign King Charles I., of blessed memory, in the year of our Lord 1644, sacrilegiously defaced and removed, and the Altar razed even with the ground, and some of the materials converted to their own private uses, by men as well of factious and rebellious principles and practices as sacrilegious. And to perpetuate this their infamous act and sacrilegious depredations, the then churchwardens, Joy Star and William Worsley (two of the actors in so great and villainous a profanation and profuse wasters of the church's treasure), had their names cut in stone which they placed in the wall, where the ancient Altar-piece stood, as a monument thereof but is now taken out and broken

to pieces, it being a shame to our Church that the names of such men should remain there (already too long) who under the hypocritical mask and disguise of abhorring idolatry dared to be guilty of so bold a sacrilege as to violate God's Altar. We, therefore, the Parishioners of the Parish of Ashford and affectionate members of our truly Apostolical and Established Church of England, abhorring (as we are bound in duty) so sacrilegious an act, and to testify our sincerity and due regard to the order and decent appendices of our Church and that Place where peace and reconciliation is made between God and man may no longer continue as it is now (to our shame) the place of brawls and contentious disputes of the Parishioners, but that a fair and decent Altar and Altarpiece, pavement and rails, may be raised and placed again in its ancient place and order (being thereunto encouraged and moved by the exemplary pious offer of a generous contribution by our very good Lord the Earl of Thanet and the Reverend Sir George Wheler* and being well assured of the further pious and concurrent contribution of our very good Lord Strangford, and divers other

* Sir G. Wheler, ancestor of the present Rev. C. Wheler, of Otterden, was lessee of the Rectorial Tithes.

devout persons of honour and quality, for the completing so decent an enterprize) have and do hereby promise to pay the several sums of money to our several and respective names hereunder written annext, to encourage and carry on also, so good and commendable a work.

“Witness our hands, this five and twentieth day of July, Anno Domini, 1695.

	<i>£ s. d.</i>		
Thanet, Guineas 5	5	10	0
W. Nevar	10	0	
Edw. Boys	1	0	0
Edw. Boys	10	0	
Robt. Court	10	0	
John Symmonds	1	0	0
Anthony Irby, 1 Guinea	1	2	0
Edward Irby, 2 Guineas	2	4	0
Church of Rochester	5	0	0
Robt. Honywood, Esq., 2 Guineas... ..	2	4	0
Mr. Mellefont, 1 Guinea	1	2	0
Mr. John Mascall, half-Guinea	11	0	
Capt. John Skinner, Bayliff of Lidd	3	0	0

Subscriptions by Parishioners:

Sam. Warren, Vic.	1	0	0
George Wheler, pd. at London	10	0	0
Charles Wheler	2	0	0

						£	s.	d.
John Wade	...	...	...	...	...	2	0	0
Arthur Apsley	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
William Clare	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	0
John Brett	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Richd. Martin	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Tho. Lake	...	...	...	...	...		10	0
James Pitts	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Tho. Jefferay	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Walter Rassall	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
Tho. Booth ...	...	...	...	...	...		10	0
Jos. Thomas	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
John Tidham	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
John Handfield	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	0
Tho. Young	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Tho. Barber	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
James Hodges	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Danl. Morton	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Wm. Hilles...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Joseph Marsh	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
John Bettenham	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Herbert Woodward	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mary Cole	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
John Fenner	...	...	...	...	...	2	0	0
John Marsh	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Tho. Sprat	...	...	...	...	...		10	0
Mrs. Sarah Warren	...	...	...	...	...		5	0

Addenda.

169

					£	s.	d.
Mrs. Dorothy Warren	...	...	...	...		2	6
Mrs. Bowyer	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Tho. Nower	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Stephen Atkins	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Isaac Brissenden	...	...	...	...		5	0
Wm. Harrison	...	...	...	...		2	6
Name illegible	...	...	...	...		5	0
John Mapliden	...	...	...	...		5	0
Wm. Botting	...	...	...	...		5	0
Danl. Godfrey	...	...	...	...		5	0
Samuel Caistor	...	...	...	...	10	0	
John Brissenden	...	...	...	...		5	0
Edmund Botting	...	...	...	...		2	6
John Reeve, turner	...	...	...	...		2	6
John Ansell	...	...	...	...		2	0
John Edwards	...	...	...	...	10	0	
Robt. Edwards	...	...	...	...		2	0

“ Besides the several sums before mentioned, there were five guineas given which are not there set down, viz.—

“ Mr. Daniel Hayes, Vicar of Papworth, son to Mr. Hayes, Vicar of Ashford, gave 1 guinea.

“ John Hayes, Printer to the University of Cambridge, 1 guinea.

“ Eliz. Hayes, wife of Mr. Hayes, printer, 1 guinea.

"John Hayes, A.M., Fellow of Queen's Coll., Cambridge, half-guinea.

"Mary Hayes, daughter of Mr. Hayes, of Papworth, half-guinea.

"John Warren, A.M., Fellow of Queen's Coll., Cambridge, 1 guinea."

"Before the setting-up of the Altar," continues Warren, "the partition between the chancel and that part of the church which is under the steeple consisted chiefly of old-fashioned, strong, carved work, folding-doors, &c., parti-coloured green, gold-colour, &c., but about the year, 1697, that partition was taken away in a great measure." This reads very like the destruction of the remains of the rood-screen. "The font stands almost in the middle of the body of the church. I have heard that about the time of the great rebellion in the reign of King Charles I., the font was taken out of the church and put to a private use, but it was afterwards restored to the right use again."

NEW BELLS.

In March, 1763, a subscription was opened for two new bells. It may interest some of my readers to observe the names of their forefathers in the list of those who responded to the appeal.

Addenda.

171

					£	s.	d.
Dr. Rutton	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
Mr. Hussey	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
Mr. Norwood	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Rev. Mr. Clough	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Rev. Mr. Greenhill	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Rev. Mr. Barrett	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Mr. Tournay	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Mr. Young	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Mr. Thorn	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Ed. Scott, Esq.	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Mr. Pattenson	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Francklyn	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. A. Flint	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Coller	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Sweetlove	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Cole	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. White	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. J. Bushell	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Baker, junr.	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Atkinson	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Impett	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Thos. Apsley	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Rev. Mr. Hawkins	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Hopkins	...	...	...	...	5	0	
Mr. Matson	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Fagg	...	...	...	...	10	6	

						£	s.	d.
Mr. Walter	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Waterman	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. G. Patey	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. J. Patey	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Elwick	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Rowley	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Bonner	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Waterman (Feversham)	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Trice, junr.	...	...	...	...	...	5	0	
Mr. Maylam	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Jno Costeker	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Jas. Costeker	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Step. Costeker	...	...	...	...	...	5	6	
Mr. Bourne	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. J. Mascall	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Wm. Bigg	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Horton	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. E. Knott	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Robins	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Pike	...	...	...	...	...	5	0	
Mr. J. Powell	...	...	...	...	...	5	0	
Mr. Curling	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Gold	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Mr. Brown	...	...	...	...	...	5	0	
Messrs. Coomber	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	
Mr. Harrison	...	...	...	...	...	5	0	

Addenda.

173

						£	s.	d.
Mr. Carpenter	...	...	...	...	...		4	0
Mr. Tomkin	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
Mr. Reeve	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
Mr. Spratt	...	...	...	...	...	I	I	0
Mr. Varham	...	...	...	...	...	I	I	0
Mr. Paine	...	...	...	...	...		2	6
Mr. Dunk	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
Mr. Else	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
Mr. J. Peirce	...	...	...	...	...		2	6
Mr. Hammond	...	...	...	...	...		10	6
Mr. Ingles	...	...	...	...	...	I	I	0
Mr. Colegate	...	...	...	...	...		10	6
Mr. Pussord	...	...	...	...	...		10	6
Mr. Marshall	...	...	...	...	...	I	I	0
Mr. James Flint	...	...	...	...	...		10	6
Mr. Walsby	...	...	...	...	...		2	6
Mr. Wanstall	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
Mr. Maclellan	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
Mr. Chapman	...	...	...	...	...		2	6
Mr. Wood	...	...	...	...	...		5	0
Carriage by land and water, outset by agreement	...	...	...	...	...		17	6

£69 2 6

Mr. James Tappenden subscribed half-a-guinea,
but refused to pay it.

March, 1763.

APSLEYS, NORWOODS, WHITFELDS.

In the south chancel is a handsome monument erected to several members of his family by Thomas Apsley, Esq., who died in 1736. The Apsleys held a leading position in the town, and lived in the large house at the corner of North-street, now occupied by Mr. B. K. Thorpe. At the end of the north transept is a monument erected in 1743, by Edward, their only surviving son, for John Norwood, gent., of Ashford, and Mary his wife, six of whose seven children lie with them in the vault beneath. Though their ascertained pedigree dates from 1620, there seems reason for supposing that the Norwoods sprung from one of the branches of the old baronial family of Northwood, or Northwode, the owners of large possessions in this county. Hasted mentions that near the Countess of Athol's brass is "a memorial for William Whitfeld, gent., who died 1739, aged 60." He was of Bybrook, and son by his second wife of Francis Whitfeld, Esq., of the Thorn-house, Bethersden, where, finely carved on a handsome chimney-piece of the local marble, may still be seen their family arms—*Argent*, a bend plain between two cottises engrailed *sable*, and crest out of a palisado crown

argent, a stag's head *or*. Miles Whitfeld, of Aldston, in Cumberland, had a son Robert, who, attracted by the iron-works, removed about 1491, to Wadhurst, in Sussex, and some thirty years afterwards, in the reign of Henry VIII., was taken up on suspicion of being a Scot. This gentleman was the direct ancestor of the Whitfelds of Canterbury, Ashford, and Lewes. One of his representatives in this town, Mr. Henry Whitfeld, is the owner and occupier of Chambers-place—a residence which in the last century belonged to Mr. Young, and passed by marriage to the Norwoods, from whom it was purchased by the father of the present proprietor.

PARKHURST.

PAGE 57.—Annexed is a copy of the return made in 1535 by Richard Parkhurst, vicar, as to the value of the living. Much of the property described belonged to the College, and then, or soon afterwards, found its way into the hands of the Crown.

From Valor Eccles., 1535.

"ASSHETISFORD.—The certificat of Mr. Ric. P'kherst, vicar there.

First the maner of Hoo, in the Countye of Sussex, belongyng to the said vicarege is letten to farme for

x — —

The rents to the said manor belongyng w' the outlands - - -	ix	xvj	x
The lordship or manor of Preston Becke Helven, in the countye of Sussex, worth by yere - - - -	xviiij	v	viiij
P'quyfits of courts of bothe lord- ships, viz., Preston and Hoo - -	—	v	—
The kyng's colledge in Cambrege payethe yerly to the said vicarage	xiiij	vj	viiij
The vicarege of Asshetisford yerly - - - - -	xx	—	—
The ground wher the old vicarege stode* - - - - -	—	xij	—
It'm xxx akers of wood at vijs. vid. le aker yerly worthe - - - -	—	x	vj
Whereof to be deducted for the stuard's fee - - - - -	—	x	—
It'm for rent to the college of Hastyns - - - - -	—	x	—
For rent to my lord archebishope of Cant'berye - - - - -	—	—	xij
It'm to Mr. Morley for rent - -	—	vi	viiij
It'm to the rent gatherer - - -	—	vi	viiij

* i. e.—The house inhabited by the Vicar previous to the foundation of the College.

For p'xies paid to the arche-
 deacon yerly - - - - - — vij vj

Summa $\text{£}1\text{xij xvjs. viijd.}$ Summa deducted
 xijs. xd. Sma de claro, $\text{£}1\text{xx xiijs. xd.}$ X inde
 vij — xvij ob.*

POYNET.

PAGE 57.—The following letter, written by Poynet, the most famous of the vicars of Ashford, when in exile, and another by his widow, are published in the Parker Society's volumes.

Poynet to Bullinger.

“Strasburgh, April 14, 1556.

“Many thanks, most excellent master Bullinger, are due from us exiles to our Lord God, for having placed over his church in this calamitous age such a teacher as yourself. For we perceive you to be one who is willing to afford every consolation, and who is able to afford very much to the afflicted servants of Christ yonder. But how greatly your kind offers towards them have bound the rest of the English to you, I had rather imagine than express, lest, in attempting to declare your acts of kindness towards them, extensive as

* We print these sums as they are given in the “Valor;” but there is evidently a mistake.

they have been, I should seem either to obscure their greatness by recounting them, or, by treating of them too lightly, to diminish their importance. But in speaking of myself, namely, an exile, and weighed down with various crosses from the Lord, I can neither refrain from speaking of the great consolation you have afforded me, nor can I adequately express my thanks. Master Burcher and others have often told me of your friendly greetings. My friend Cheke also has repeated to me your salutations in your letters to him, and so likewise has Sampson in his; in which I have perused from your pen many things most gratifying to me. For I have perceived therein your distress and vehement sorrow of mind for the universal flock of Christ. I have perceived, also, at the same time, a signal manifestation of your benevolence and regard towards me. The Lord God, I acknowledge, has taken from me all that I had, which indeed was most ample. But why should He not? He who gave has taken away. But what? Worldly, earthly, perishable things; while He is intending, I hope, yea, I do not doubt, to bestow upon me things heavenly and imperishable. What is exile? A thing which, provided you have wherewithal to subsist, is painful only in imagina-

tion. I know that it is the scourge of the Lord ; but with what mildness and fatherly affection He deals with me, I can readily learn even from this, that He has afforded me for my comforters, Bullinger, Melancthon, Martyr, and other most shining lights of His church. Happy was the widow of Sarepta in experiencing the mercy of God, and the consolation imparted by Elijah ; wretched and most unworthy were those lepers who rejected Christ their only comfort. But since it has seemed good to my God to raise up in you such an Elijah as can support me in my affliction, I write these things to you, not so much to express my thanks for your so great and truly Christian care bestowed upon me—although these are especially due to you from me—as to acquaint you at the same time that I have both derived the greatest pleasure from those letters of yours to your friends respecting me, and that I acknowledge myself exceedingly indebted to you for them. My friend Cheke bade me, on his departure for Antwerp, to salute you in his name ; he told me also that he had heard that Ignatius, in Greek, had been sent over to some printer at Zurich to be printed ; if this be the case, will you allow me to trouble you so far as to procure me a transcript of

that passage from the epistle to the Philadelphians respecting the marriage of Paul and the other apostles; I have now a controversy about this matter with a most impudent Papist. I am ashamed to say more about this request; but you must know that I am of necessity compelled to make it, for I have no other means of obtaining what I wish. But as often as I consider what character Bullinger bears in the general opinion, my mind tells me before-hand that this little trouble will not be displeasing to you. Excuse, I pray you, this liberty. Excuse also my hasty pen. Farewell, and count me, I pray you, in the number of your friends.

“Your’s wholly,

“JOHN PONET, *Anglus.*

“Formerly Bishop of Winchester.”

To Peter Martyr from Maria Ponet.

“Strasburgh, 15 July, 1557.

“It is not from any fault of mine, most accomplished sir, that you have been so long without your books. My dear husband has died and left me a wretched widow, and entirely unacquainted with these things; he left also I know not how many or what kind of books, all of which, as I

thought they belonged to me, I sold to that excellent person, and my very good friend, Master Cook; which when I had done, Master Jewel informed me by letter, that some of them belonged to your excellency, and that you were making inquiry after them. As soon as I understood this to be the case, I addressed myself with all diligence, and frequently too, to Master Cook, that I might be permitted to re-purchase, at whatever cost, those books of yours, which I had before sold him by mistake for my own. But from some cause or other I could not obtain my request. Since therefore I was exceedingly anxious to restore you your books, and could find no other way of doing so, I have purchased new ones at the booksellers, which I have destined for your reverence, and caused to be forwarded to you by my worthy friend John Abel. For although I am but a poor widow, I had rather die than do an injury to any one, or than not pay every one their due, as far as lies in my power. It truly grieves me very much, that I have put off this business till the present time; but your kindness will excuse me, for I should have accomplished it sooner if I could any where have met with the books on sale before. Farewell, very learned and dear sir; I request you too of your kindness not to

forget me in your prayers, and I will always pray for you.

“Your reverence’s most devoted,

“MARIA PONET.”

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

PAGE 71.—Although the account previously given of the tenure by which the master of the Grammar School holds his *house* is sufficiently correct from a practical point of view, it may be proper to add that there *is* a surviving trustee of the property—the Rev. George Norwood, rector of Mersham, and that Dr. Nance (as I have been told) was wont to say that he “always had a ‘set-off’ in the shape of a bill for repairs against the rent (£16 per annum) which he was called upon to pay.”

PAGE 75.—Mr. Bate was also vicar of Boughton Aluph.

COCK FIGHTING.

PAGE 96.—The entry in the churchwardens’ accounts shows at what date the inhuman and singularly inappropriate pastime of “throwing at cock” was ordered to be discontinued in the churchyard. From the *Kentish Post* or *Canterbury News Letter*, of 2nd February, 1763, I copy the following advertisement relating to cock-fighting in this

neighbourhood:—"At the Chequer in Pluckley Street, on Tuesday and Wednesday, being February the 8th and 9th instant, between the gentlemen of Ashford and Pluckley and the gentlemen of Yalding: each side to show twenty-two cocks; to weigh at ten o'clock, and to fight for five guineas a battle, and ten guineas the odd battle. There will be a close pit, and a very good twelve-penny ordinary on the table each day at one o'clock. Any gentleman or others who please to favour me with their company, such favours will be gratefully acknowledged by their most humble and obedient servant, HENRY COOPER."

TURNPIKE ROAD TO HAMSTREET.

PAGE 143.—Apropos of the improvement in the roads mentioned by Mr. Furley, as having been carried out in the latter portion of the last century, I may add an advertisement from the *Kentish Gazette*, of Jan. 18th, 1793.

"At a meeting held at the Royal Oak Inn, at Ashford, on Friday, the 11th January, 1793, pursuant to adjournment from the Dog and Bear Inn, in Lenham, the 31st December last, for taking into consideration an application to Parliament for an Act for a Turnpike Road from Ashford to Ham Street.

"Nicholas Roundell Toke, Esq., in the chair.

"The Chairman reported the resolutions of the meetings at Lenham, on the 19th November and 31st December last.

"Resolved unanimously—That this meeting do concur in the resolutions of the last Meeting at Lenham, that a Turnpike Road from Ashford to Hamstreet will be of public utility. Resolved unanimously—That application be made to Parliament in the present Sessions for an Act for making the said road. Resolved unanimously—That the thanks of this meeting be given to Nicholas Roundell Toke, Esq., for his able and impartial conduct in the chair. Resolved unanimously—That this meeting be adjourned to Friday, the 8th February next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, to be held at this place. N. R. TOKE, Chairman."

"The meeting was numerously attended by inhabitants of Ashford, Kingsnorth, Shadoxhurst, Ruckinge, Warehorne, Orlestone, New Romney, Brookland, Appledore, and Kennardington, and principal occupiers of land in Snave, Ivychurch, Hope All Saints, Snargate, Brenzet, and in Romney Marsh."

NAMES OF STREETS.

PAGE 149.—I wish it were in my power to enter

into the history and origin of the names of the streets and lands in the parish of Ashford. To what has been said by Mr. Thurston, I can only add that Robert Lovelace, "householder," who died in 1617, and whose will is in the Registry at Canterbury, mentions his house in *Hemsted Lane*—thus proving that the name has been associated with the locality for at least 250 years.

SHAKSPEARE'S ALLUSION TO ASHFORD.

We may end our history by reminding our readers that Shakspeare, in the second part of King Henry VI., makes one of the most prominent of Jack Cade's followers to be a butcher of Ashford.—

"*Cade*. Where's Dick, the butcher of Ashford ?

"*Dick*. Here, sir.

"*Cade*. They fell before thee like sheep and oxen, and thou behavest thyself as if thou hadst been in thy own slaughter-house ; therefore thus will I reward thee, the Lent shall be as long again as it is ; and thou shall have a license to kill for a hundred lacking one.

"*Dick*. I desire no more.

"*Cade*. And to speak truth thou deservest no less. This monument of the victory will I bear (putting on Sir Humphrey Stafford's brigandine) ;

and the bodies shall be dragged at my horse heels till I do come to London, where we will have the mayor's sword borne before us.

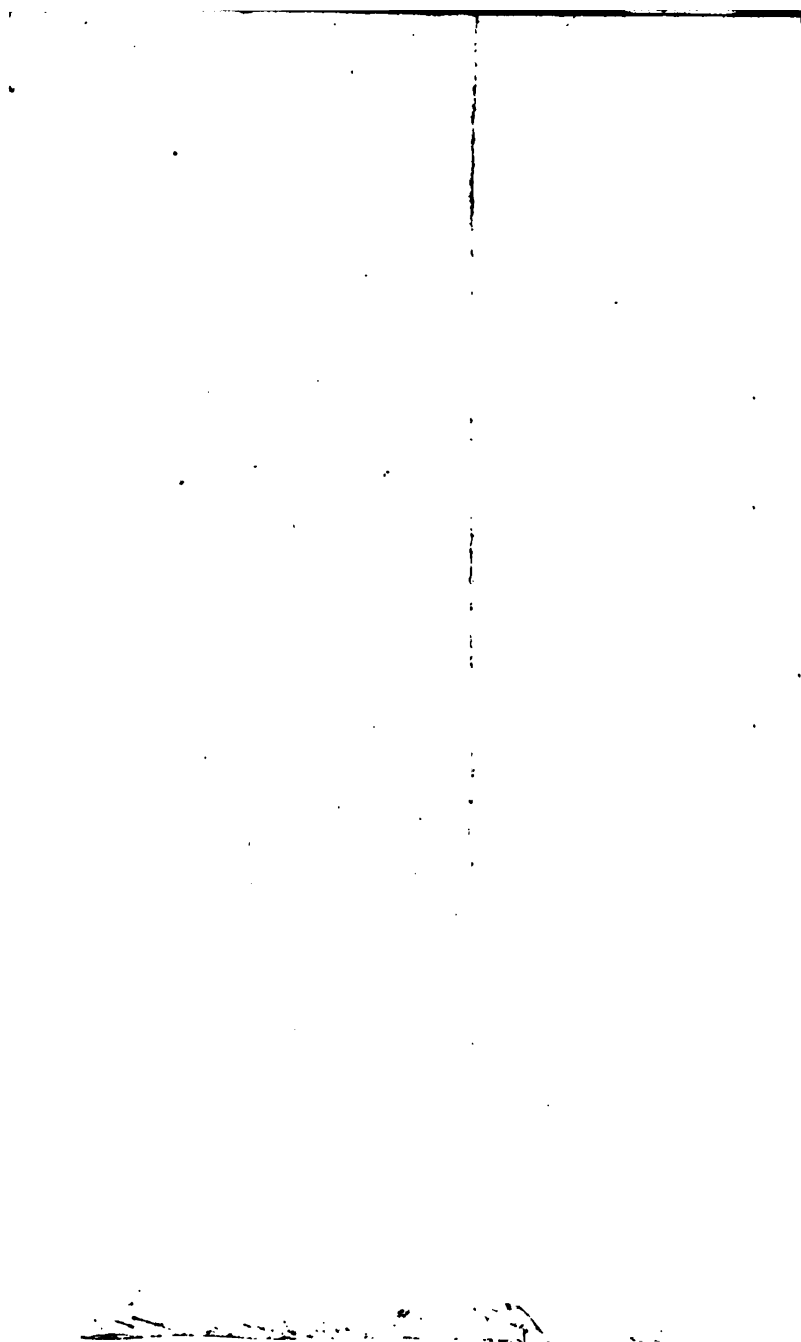
"*Dick.* If we mean to thrive and do good break open the gaols and let out the prisoners.

"*Cade.* Fear not that, I warrant thee. Come, let's march toward London."

T H E E N D .

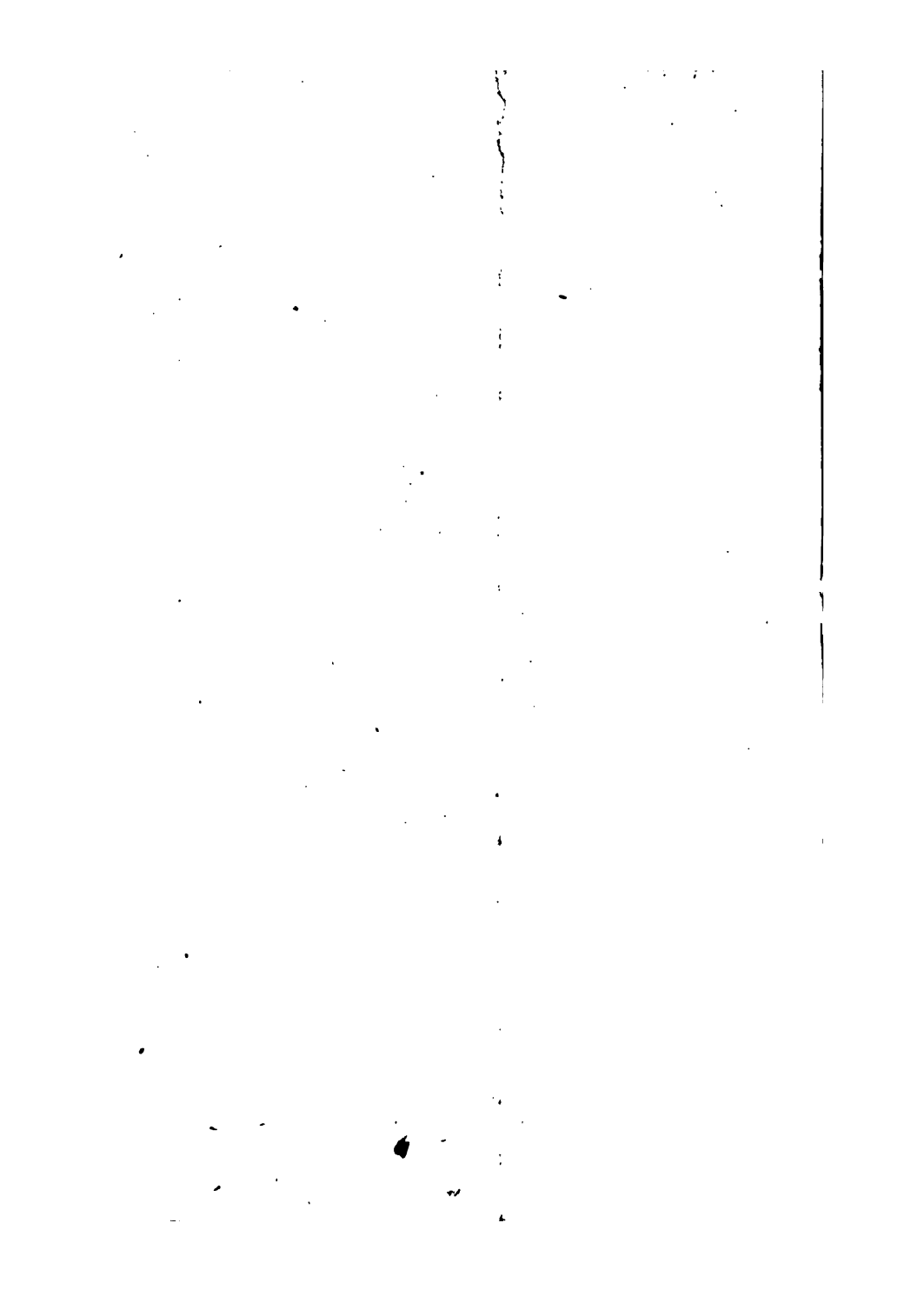


New Town Exchange, Ashford, Kent.



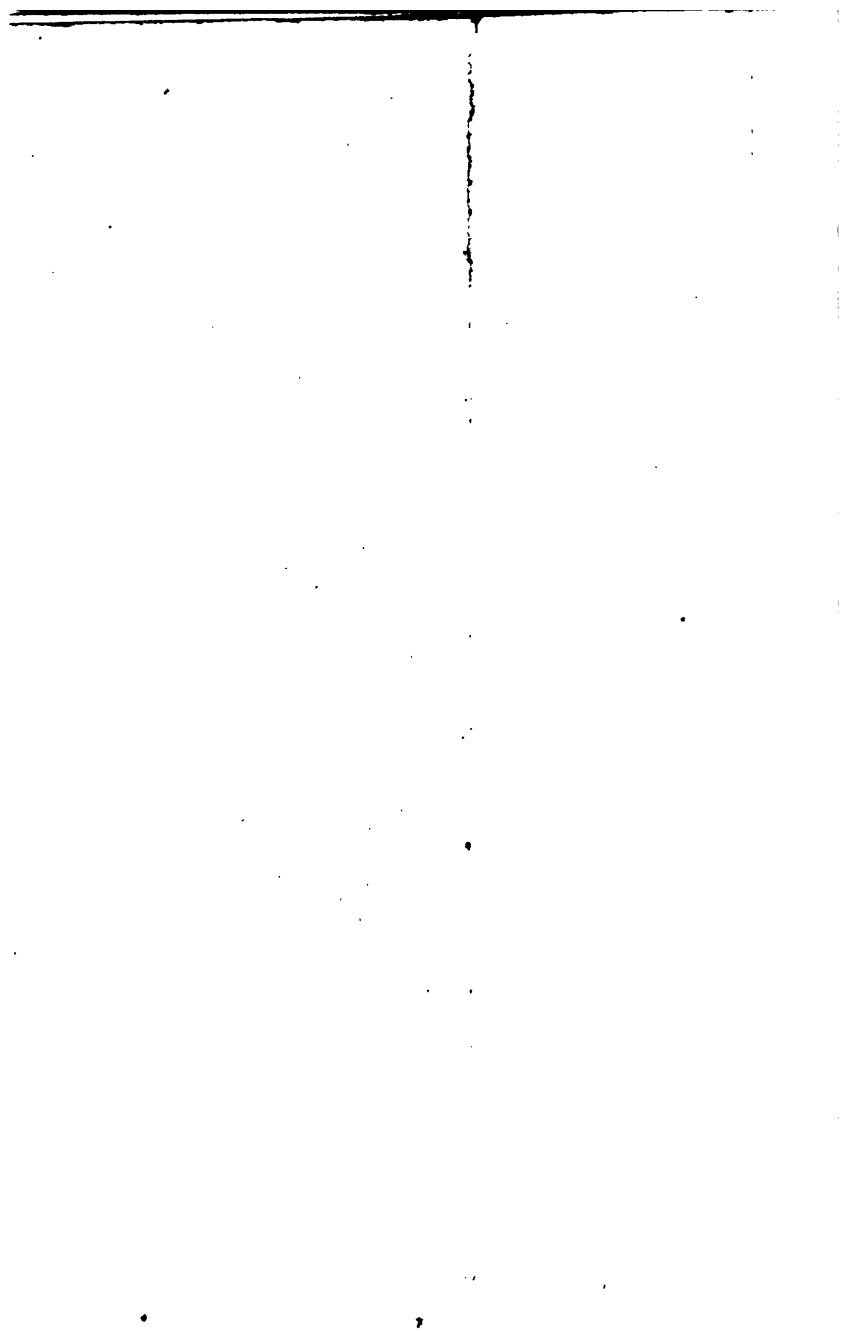


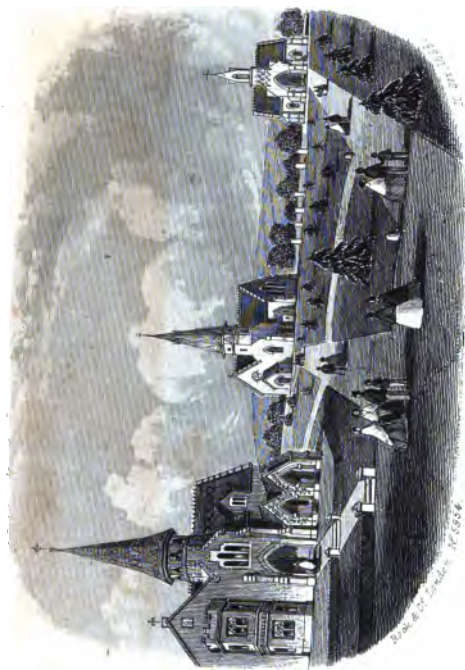
High Street, Ashford, Kent





Christ Church, South Aylesford, Kent.





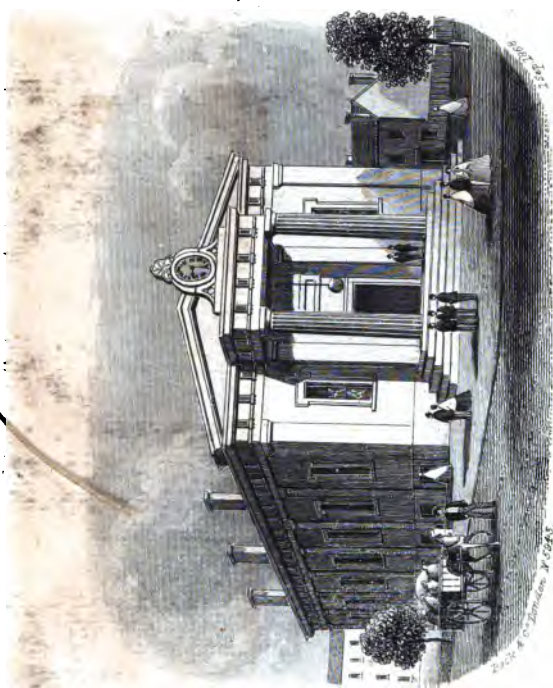
Cemetery, Ashford, Kent.

and the bodies shall be dragged at my horse heels till I do come to London, where we will have the mayor's sword borne before us.

"*Dick.* If we mean to thrive and do good break open the gaols and let out the prisoners.

"*Cade.* Fear not that, I warrant thee. Come, let's march toward London."

T H E E N D .



New Loan Exchange, Ashford, Kent.

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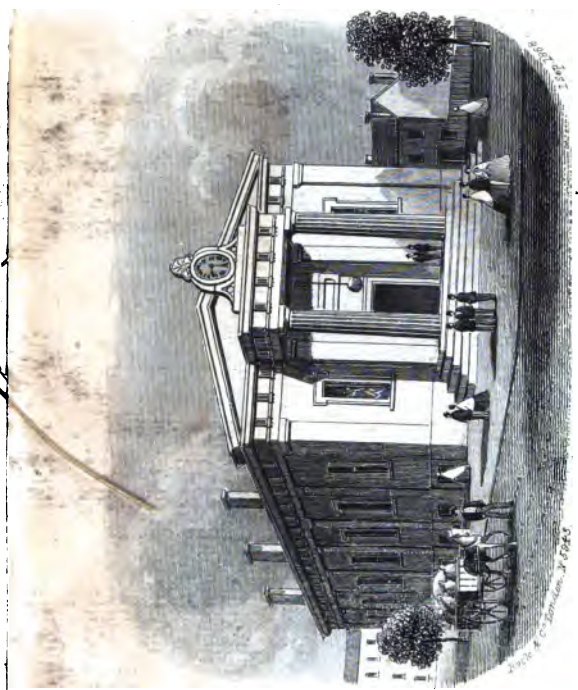
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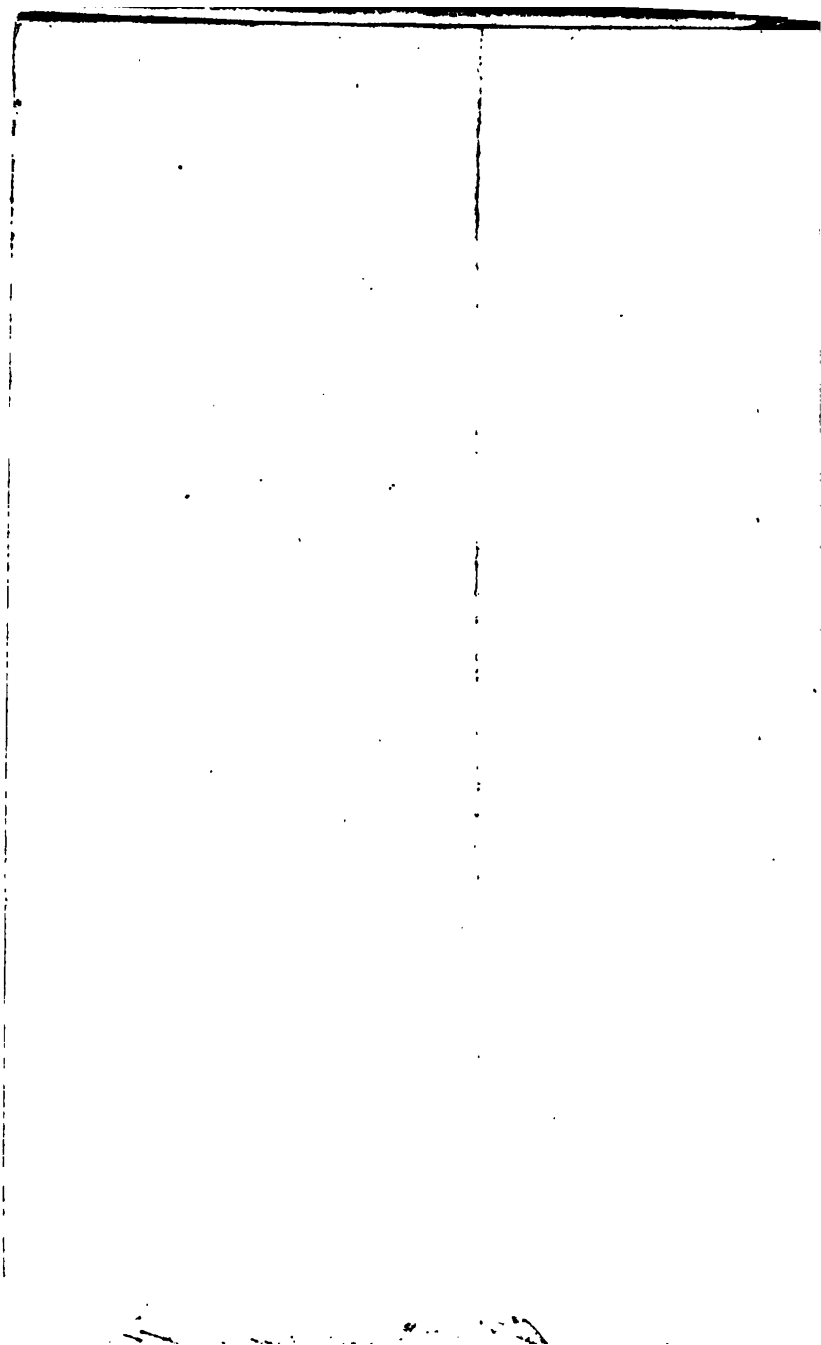
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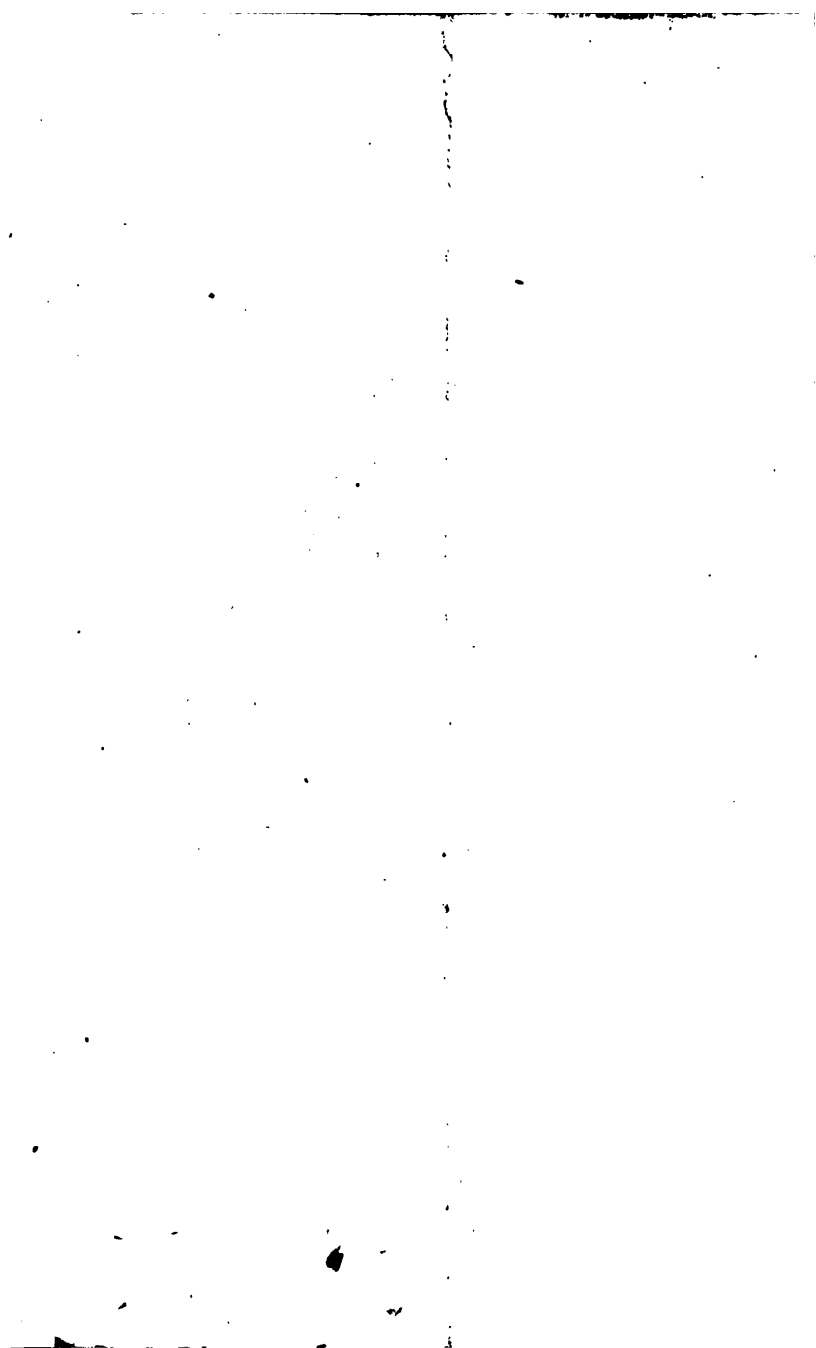


New-Town Exchange, Ashford, Kent.





High Street, Ashford, Kent

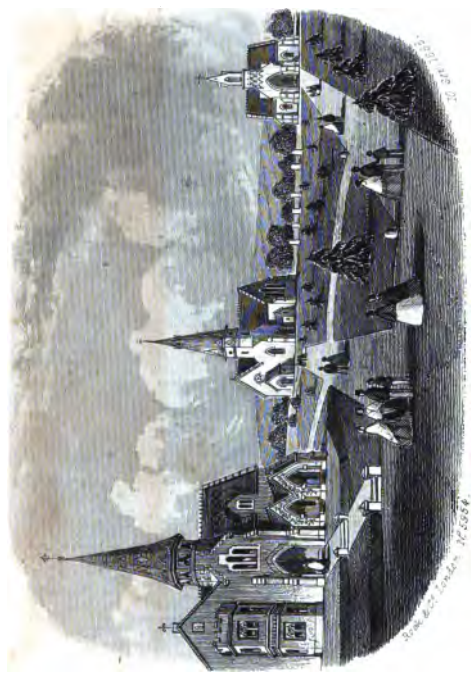




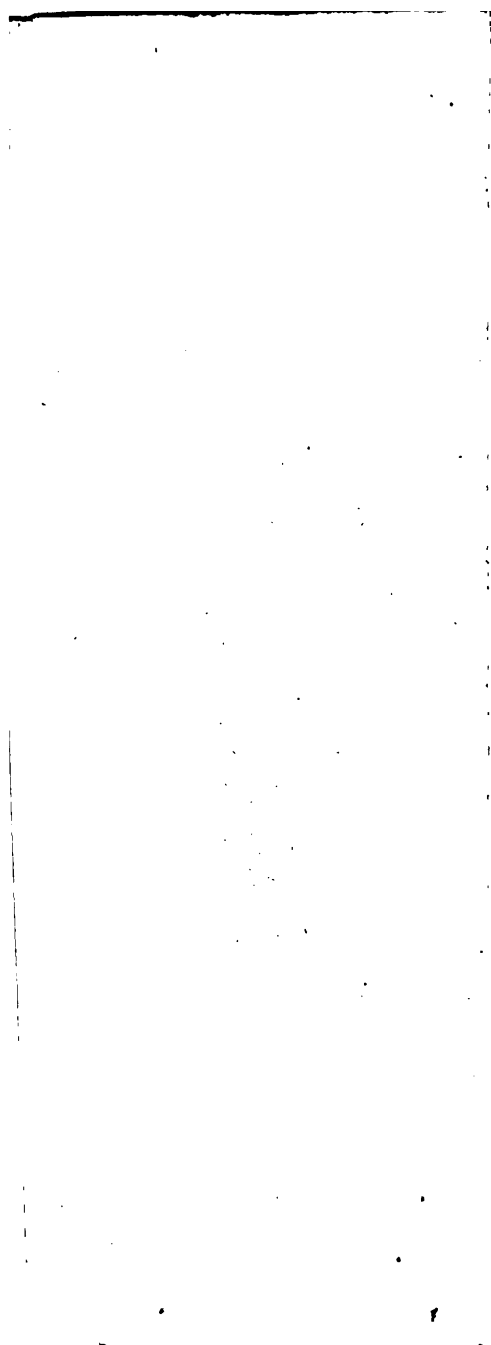
Christ Church, South Appford, Kent.

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Cemetery, Ashford, Kent.



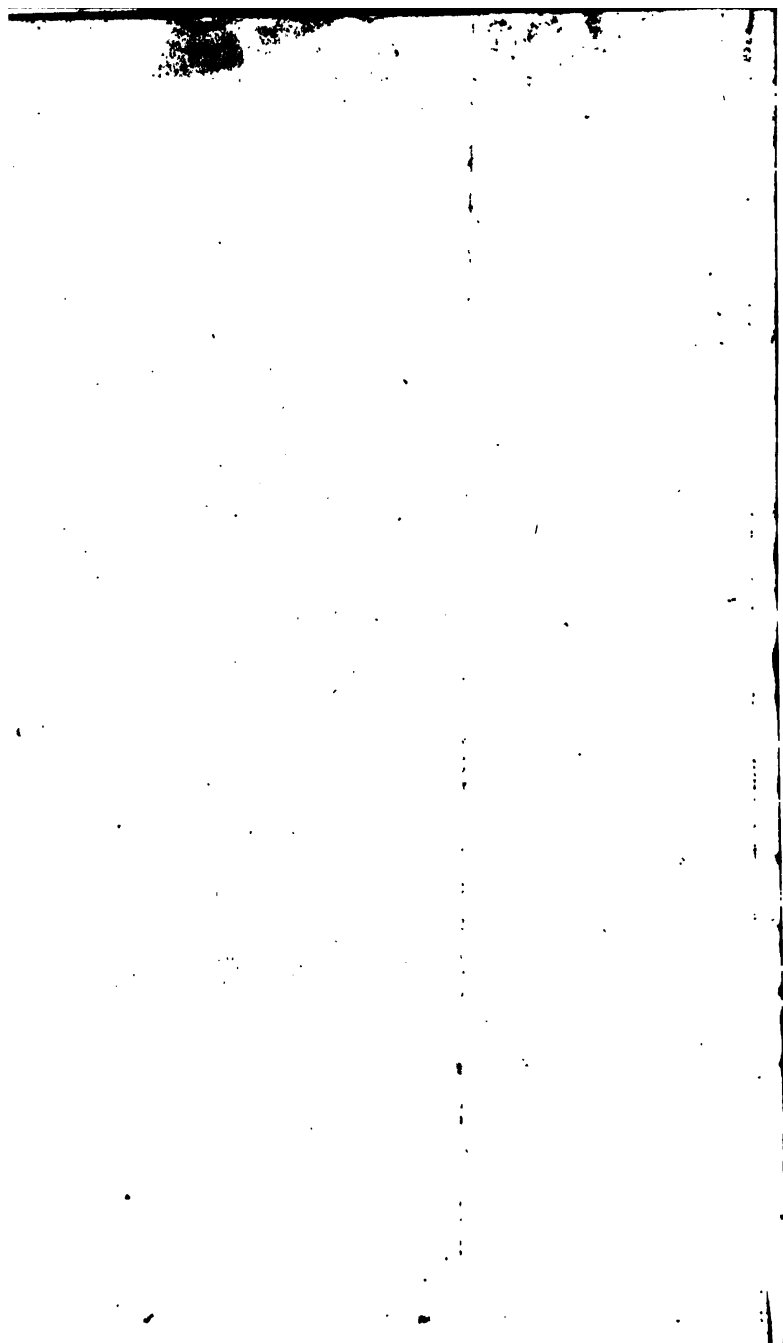


Congregational Chapel, Ashford, Kent.

S.



St. Patrick's Church, Ashford, Kent.





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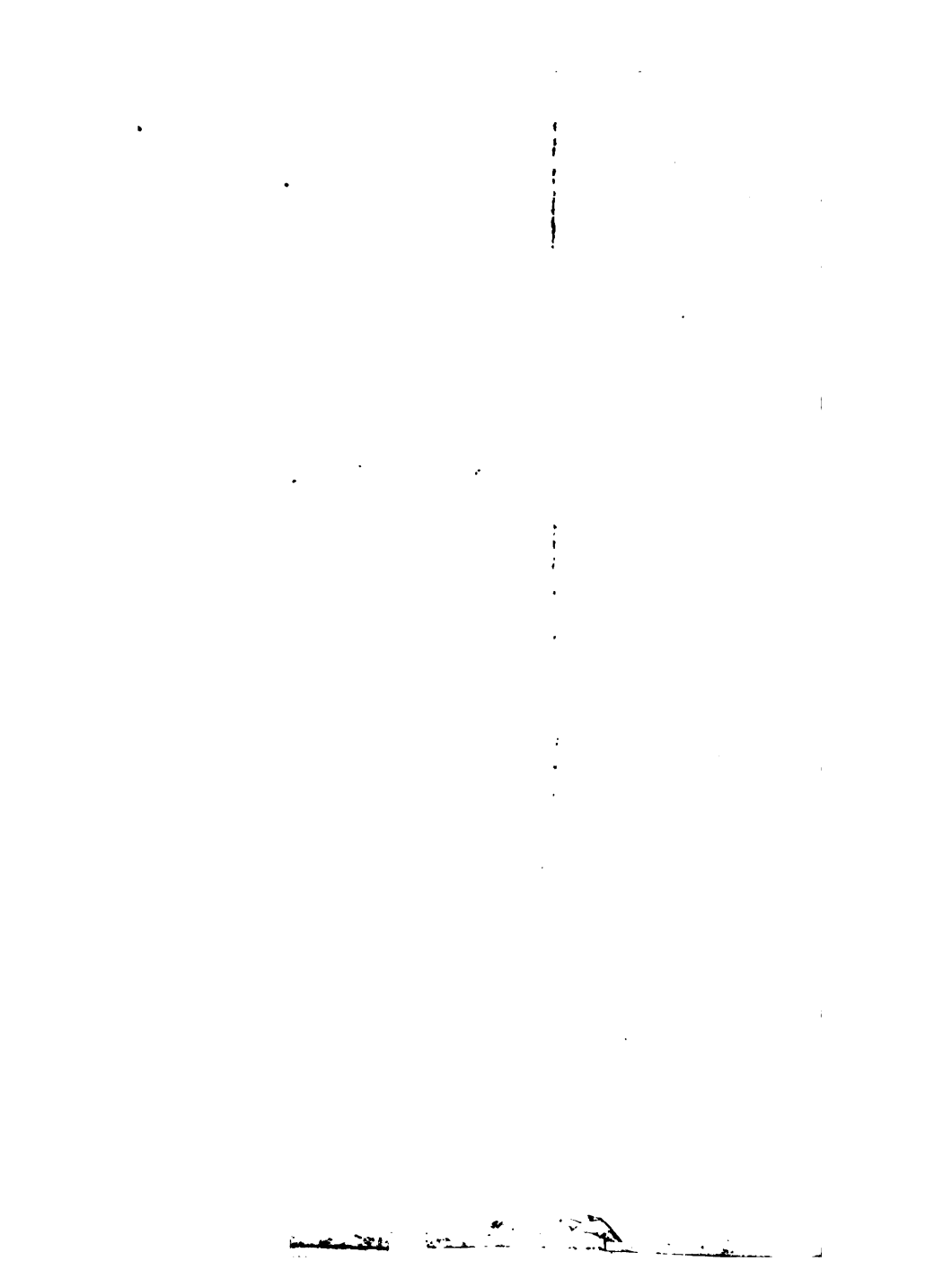
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New Town Exchange. Ashford, Kent.



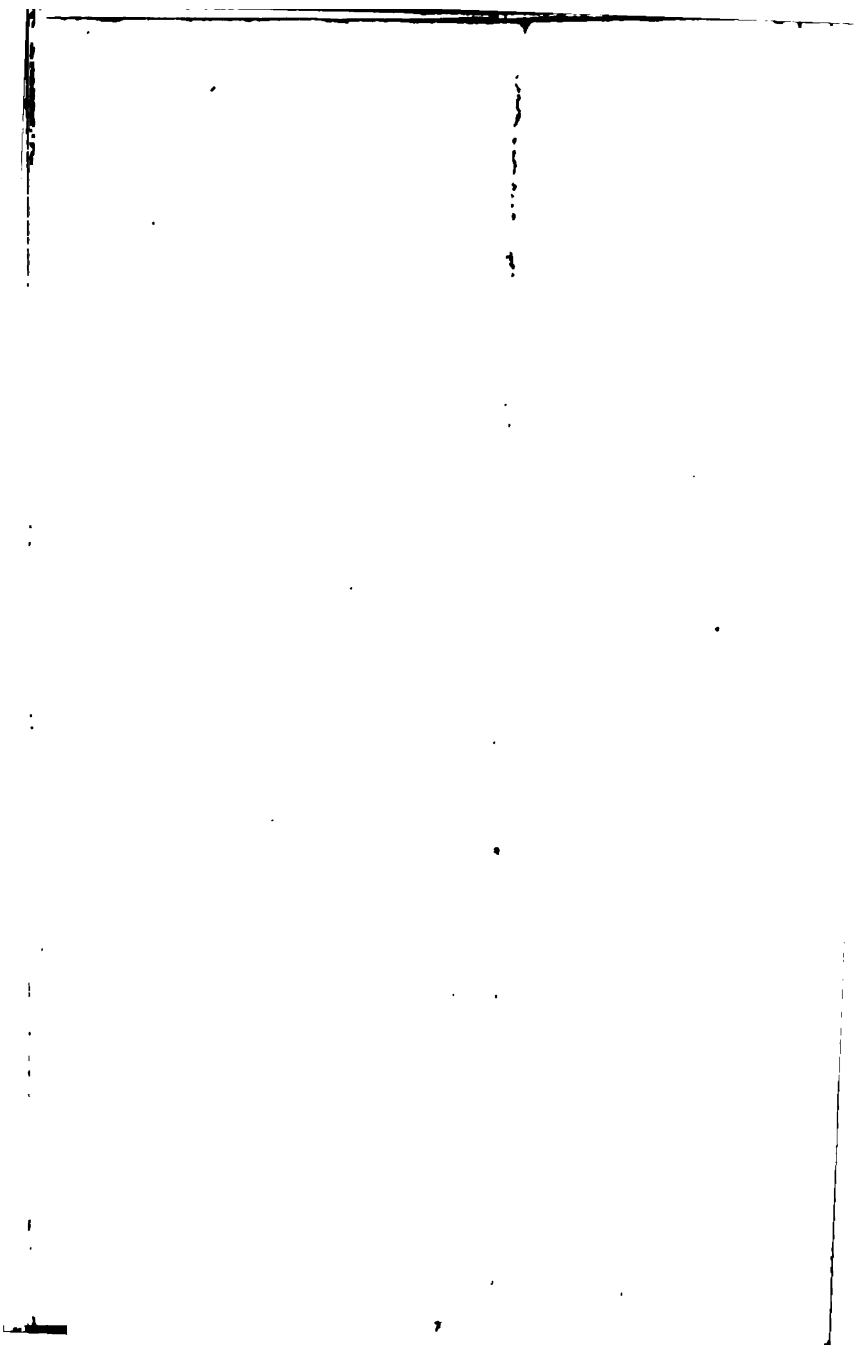


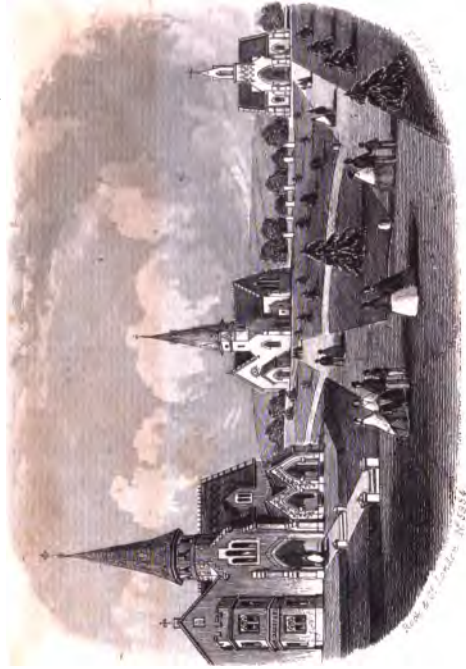
High Street, Ashford, Kent



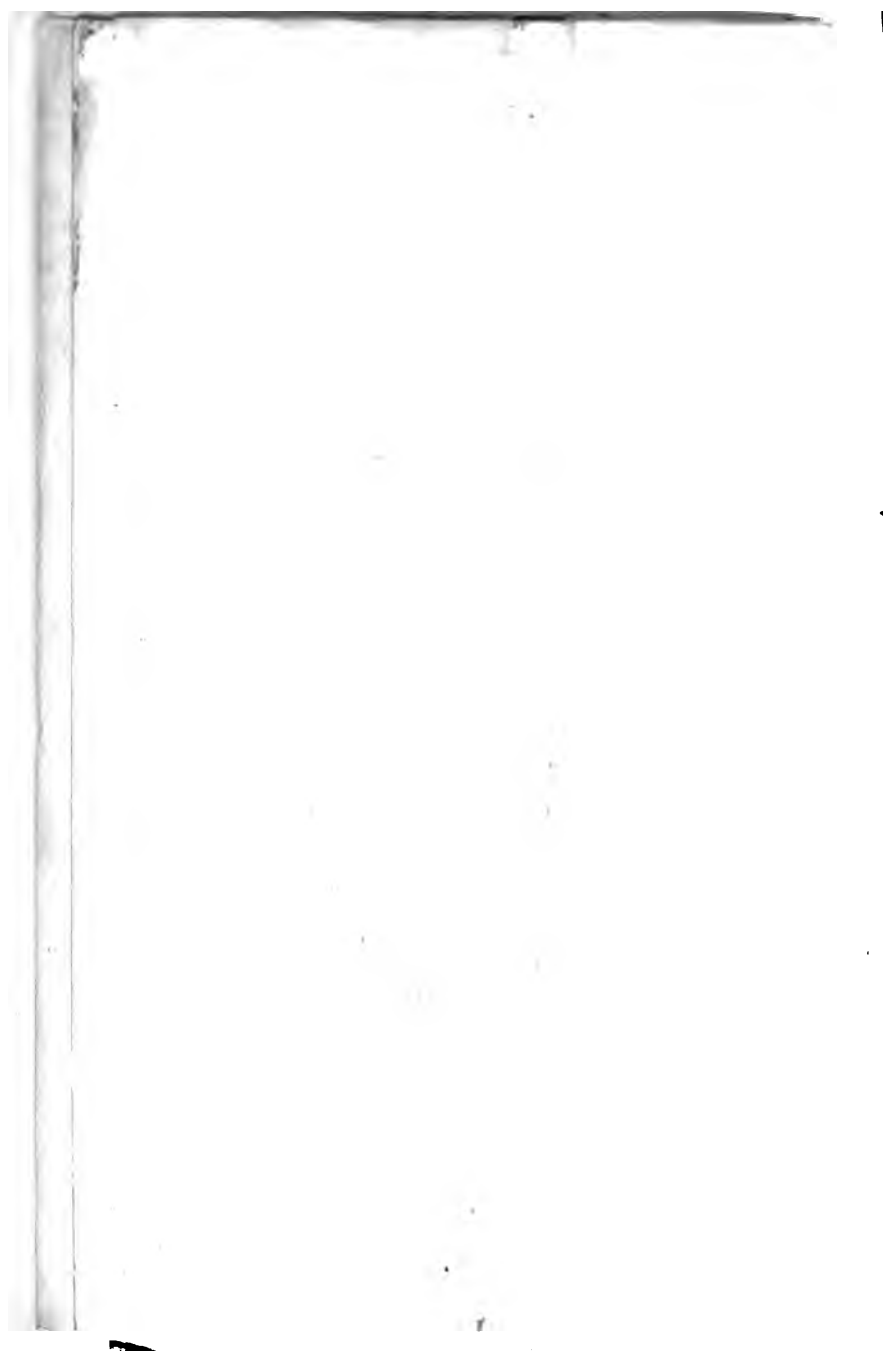


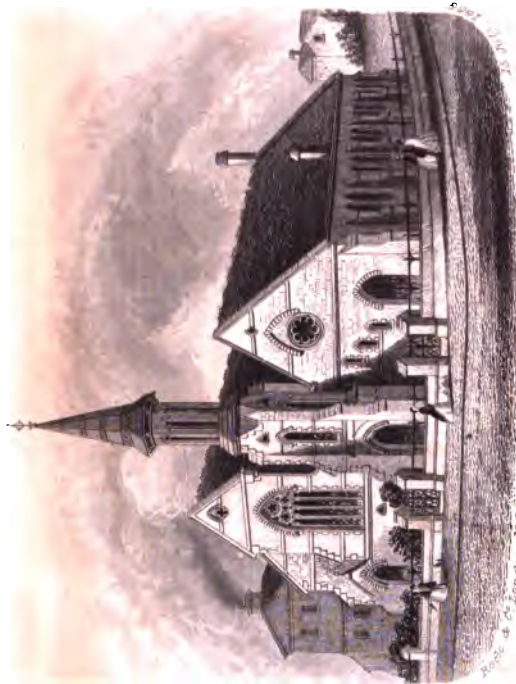
Christ Church, South Afford, Kent





Cemetery, Appleton, Wis.





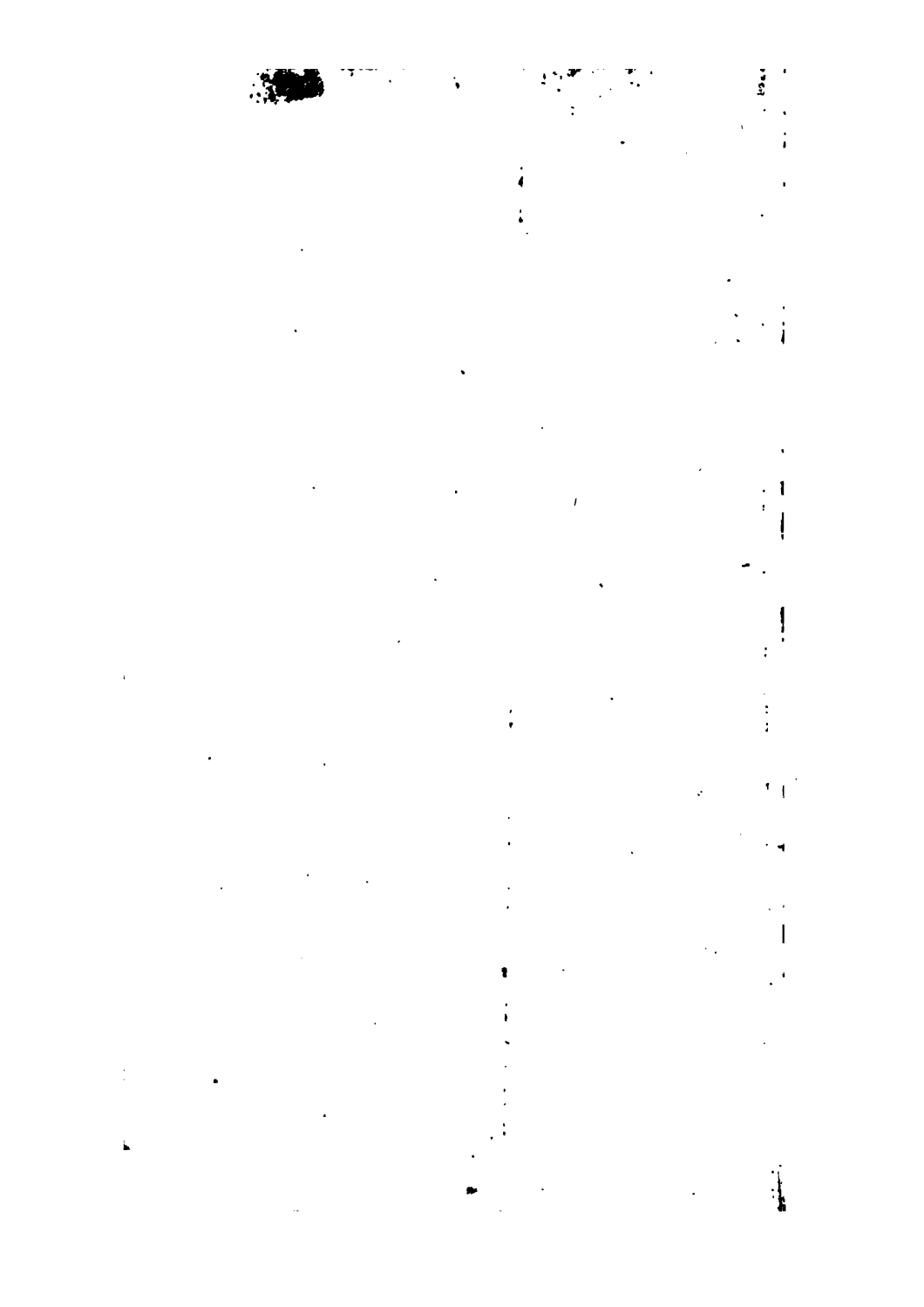
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Congregational Church, Woodbury, N. Y.

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Perist Church, Ashford Kent







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